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THE TIMES

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Mates resigns to spare further embarrassment

'In retrospect I rather wish I had sent the watch with its now famous message to you'

By Philip Webster
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL Mates yesterday gave up his 25-day battle to ride out the disclosures about his links with the businessman Asil Nadir and surrendered his ministerial career to spare the government further embarrassment.

The Northern Ireland security minister had continued to fight for his political life right up to yesterday lunchtime, and even after a week of growing expectation that he would have to go, MPs were stunned when the prime minister announced at question time that he had resigned.

Mr Mates had tendered his resignation during a 15-minute conversation with John Major an hour earlier, finally falling off the tightrope he had been walking since it was revealed that he had sent Mr Nadir a watch engraved "Don't let the buggers get you down". Yesterday, he said he wished he had sent the in-

had become so great that he should go. In a "calm and measured" interview at Downing Street just after 2pm, Mr Mates offered his resignation to Mr Major on the ground that he had become an embarrassment to the government. Mr Major did not contest the judgment or make any attempt to dissuade the minister.

Almost up until midday, Mr Mates had made clear that he was determined to struggle on. It is clear that the whip did not ask him to resign and earlier this week they told him that he could survive. During the past two days, however, sentiment had moved against him and it was that bleak assessment that was conveyed to him yesterday lunchtime.

By resigning, Mr Mates pre-empted a possible recommendation to the prime minister from the 1922 Committee executive that he should go or calls for his head at the full meeting of the committee shortly afterwards. It was, however, by no means certain that either would have happened, since there were increasing expressions of concern from MPs yesterday about the dangers of another minister losing his job as a result of media pressure.

In the end, the timing of his departure came as a surprise and MPs gasped when Mr Major told them that Mr Mates had been to see him during the afternoon. "He told me he deeply regretted the embarrassment being caused to the government. He asked me if he could stand aside from his duties."

"On these grounds — and on these grounds alone — he asked me if he could stand aside from his duties. With regret I have accepted his resignation."

Mr Major, who was criticised by MPs for allowing the affair to drag on for too long, added that Mr Mates had acted with "complete propriety" in raising with the attorney-general the concerns put to him about Mr Nadir's case. "I have no criticisms of Mr Mates on that account or his performance as a Minister of State, Northern Ireland."

In his resignation letter, Mr Mates wrote: "The daily leaking of letters and so-called quotes from unknown sources — most of them wildly inaccurate — is causing such cumulative damage to the important work of government, that I must do what I can to bring it to an end. I therefore wish to go." He added: "I shall



Striding out: Michael Mates arriving for his last day of work at the Northern Ireland Office in London yesterday

Disgraced financier's son asked Tories for return of £10,000 gift

By Angela Mackay
ANDREW PIERCE AND
CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

JONATHAN LYONS, the son of the disgraced financier Jack Lyons, asked the Conservative Party for the return of a cheque for more than £10,000 when he complained about his father losing his knighthood after being convicted in the Guinness affair.

The request emerged yesterday as Lord Tebbit, Tory chairman between 1985 and 1987, confirmed that the party had returned another "very substantial donation" around the time of the Guinness affair. He admitted that other gifts had been refused, either because the cash may have been "tainted" or deemed inappropriate.

The development will increase pressure on the Conservatives to return a £365,000



Jack Lyons: made regular donations to the party

donation from Asil Nadir, the fugitive Polly Peck tycoon.

Jonathan Lyons sent a letter to John Major in early 1991 after learning that his father's knighthood was about to be taken away. He berated the party for deserting its friends and asked for the return of a donation he had made of at

least £10,000 to the Conservative Industrial Fund.

A reply from 19 Downing Street was dated February 19, 1991, three weeks before the knighthood was removed. A source who has seen the letter said: "The gist of it was that they couldn't make any promises in relation to donations."

The donation was returned.

Lord Tebbit confirmed last night that just before the 1987 election cash from a prominent regular contributor was handed back after a discussion between himself and Lord McAlpine, the party treasurer. Other party sources suggest that the cheque was in excess of £100,000.

Lord Tebbit refused to identify those involved but he recalled one particularly vivid incident after he had instituted a system of "commonsense vetting".

"Alastair McAlpine came

into my office with a cheque. He said: 'What should we do with this?' I took one look at the cheque and said: 'Send it back'."

Tebbit said: "It was a classic case of Alastair having some misgivings and coming to me as chairman of the party and asking me what should be done. But we were both of the same opinion. And the money went back."

Jack Lyons was awarded the CBE in 1967 and knighted in 1973. He has given more than £400,000 to the London Symphony Orchestra and has given money to many other arts organisations.

Arrested at the end of 1987, he was convicted in 1990 of theft, conspiracy and false accounting in the Guinness trial and fined £3 million.

Continued on page 2, col 5

Rosyth erupts in anger as Devonport wins £5bn deal

By Michael Evans and Jill Sherman

A £5 BILLION contract for refitting Trident and other nuclear submarines was awarded yesterday to the royal dockyard at Devonport. Malcolm Rifkind, the defence secretary, told the Commons that the Plymouth yard had undercut the bid from Rosyth in Fife by £64 million.

The long-awaited announcement brought predictions of disaster for Rosyth and the surrounding region. Mr Rifkind offered a significant concession, however, by promising that the yard would be the principal refit facility for the Royal Navy's surface ships.

To keep the yard open, work will be allocated to Rosyth for 12 years, guaranteeing refit contracts for more than half the fleet, including the aircraft carriers, nearly all Type 42 destroyers and all Hunt class minesweepers. "These proposals mean that we expect Rosyth to be allocated responsibility for the refits of some 18 major warships," Mr Rifkind said.

About 3,700 people are employed at Rosyth. Mr Rifkind said 450 jobs would go. The guarantee of surface ship work to Rosyth would also mean a cut of about 350 at Devonport. Unions at Rosyth doubted Mr Rifkind's figures, saying that warship refit work would not sustain the workforce at that level.

The announcement provoked uproar on the Opposition benches, with Labour MPs accusing the government of reneging on past pledges to award the contract to Rosyth. George Foulkes, Labour defence spokesman, said: "The decision is a bitter blow for the

men and women of Rosyth and it is a betrayal of the promises given by previous Tory defence secretaries."

Mr Rifkind reminded Mr Foulkes that in 1987 he had called for Trident to be cancelled. That would have cost 3,000 Scottish jobs.

Menzies Campbell, defence spokesman for the Liberal Democrats, said Lord Younger, one of Mr Rifkind's predecessors, had pledged that Rosyth would get the Trident work.

The Scottish TUC said that the Tories stood exposed as "cheats and liars". Calling for the resignation of Mr Rifkind and Ian Lang, the Scottish Secretary who supported Rosyth's bid, Campbell Christie, general sec-

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retary, said: "It is impossible now to place any credence on today's promises about guarantees on surface refits."

Sir Nicholas Bonsor, chairman of the Commons defence committee, said his members would examine the figures to satisfy themselves that the work promised to Rosyth would ensure its survival.

Bill Walker, Tory MP for North Tayside and the Scottish Conservative defence spokesman, in a letter to the chairman of his local party, said that without the jobs at Rosyth the political case in Scotland for the Conservatives would be difficult to sustain. "I am convinced that our party in Scotland is sleepwalking into constitutional political nightmare."



scribed gift to the prime minister.

Mr Mates had been tipped over the edge by the leak of a letter he wrote to the attorney-general on behalf of Mr Nadir and the disclosure at lunchtime that he had dined on Wednesday night with the Polly Peck chief's public relations adviser. Details of that encounter were reported on the ITN news at 12.30. Alerted that the story was about to break, Mr Mates had ten minutes earlier telephoned a senior whip.

During that conversation, he is believed to have accepted that the perpetual string of leaks and allegations had gone too far. Although — as both he and the prime minister insisted — he had done nothing improper, it was agreed that the cumulative damage to the government

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FBI foils assassination plot

FROM BEN MACINTYRE
IN NEW YORK

FBI agents in New York yesterday arrested eight people and accused them of plotting to assassinate Boutros Boutros Ghali, the United Nations secretary-general, President Mubarak of Egypt and Alfonso D'Amato, a Republican senator.

The group allegedly intended to blow up the UN and FBI headquarters in lower Manhattan and one of two commuter tunnels linking Man-

hattan with New Jersey, according to the FBI.

One of the men arrested admitted having taken part in the bombing of the World Trade Centre on February 26, in which six people were killed and more than 1,000 injured. The group, whose ringleader was identified as Siddiq Ibrahim Siddiq Ali of Jersey City, intended to carry out the wave of bombings before the trial in that case opens in September, according to news reports.

The suspects, who have been under police surveillance

for at least four months, are also reported to have ties to Shaikh Omar Abdel-Rahman, the Muslim cleric who was spiritual leader of several of the World Trade Centre bombing suspects.

Another of the group's targets was named as a state assemblyman, Dov Hikind of Brooklyn, a Jewish leader who has condemned terrorism. Both Mr Hikind and Mr D'Amato received death threats last month.

Shaikh link, page 12

Magistrates seek power to lock up tearaways

LEGISLATION giving magistrates the power to lock up teenage tearaways in local authority secure units for up to six months is being considered by the government (Richard Ford writes).

In the wake of several cases in which delinquents have escaped from local authority care and have then committed further offences, ministers want youth courts to be able to send juveniles directly to the secure units, removing the

discretion to do so from social services.

Ministers have been annoyed by highly publicised cases in which social workers employed by local authorities have placed frequent offenders in insecure accommodation or with foster parents.

Local authorities complain, however, that difficulties arise because of the lack of secure accommodation within a reasonable distance for a young person.

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Colossus exposes his soft spot

Yesterday Sir Peter Tapsell (C, Lindsey) lost the taste of victory. This, anyway, was the Duke of Devonshire's grumble when Stanley Baldwin accused the British press of exercising "power without responsibility, the traditional prerogative of the baron". Sir Peter quoted Baldwin to the prime minister.

His complaint was clear: John Major had thrown Michael Mates to the wolves of Fleet Street. Tapsell will certainly not be the toast of the message parlours of Uxbridge, the bordellos of Louth or the knocking shops of Skegness this weekend. He referred to Baldwin ("Mr Baldwin") as though to an old friend of the family — which, indeed, he may have been, as Tapsell was already a teenager when Baldwin died, and went on to work as Sir Anthony Eden's personal assistant. His question left the prime minister winded. It was the only question yesterday which did.

Things have come to a pretty pass when effective opposition to the government is left to a grandee Tory knight from Lincolnshire. Tapsell's was, after all, the obvious question. The prime minister had just told a Labour MP (Joyce Quin, Gateshead E) that he had dropped Mr Mates despite the fact that, in both his own and Mates's opinion, Mates had done absolutely nothing wrong.

Why let him go then? This was an echo of Major's comments from Paris about Norman Lamont, just after he had sacked him, when he told the media that Lamont had been a fine Chancellor but the pressure to remove him was overwhelming.

Within seconds of the prime minister's kind words for the bits of Mates which the wolves were not already loping off into the woods with, the leader of the Labour party, John

Smith, rose. Tories winced. Another open goal for the Opposition leader. How would he score? With sarcasm, asking Major which others of his ministers had done nothing wrong, and when he planned to sack them? Or would he ask him what punishment he reserved for the guilty, given his treatment of the innocent? Perhaps he would just sweetly ask where Major supposed the "continuing speculation" that had proved fatal to Mates had come from?

He might, of course, ask all three questions, as he is traditionally accorded three bites at the cherry. Easy cherry, yesterday: no doubt about it.

The Labour leader adjusted his glasses and asked about the Rosyth dockyard. The question went down extremely well in the immediate environs of Mr Smith, namely his own front bench, the majority of whom were Scottish. We assume it also went down well in Scotland, 350 miles away.

The only slight problem for the Opposition is in the intermediate area which lies between Mr Smith's green leather bench and Hadrian's wall. This comprises the 57 MPs and their 51 million constituents who are not Scottish and who occupy more than half the benches behind Mr Smith and more than seven-eighths of the benches opposite him, plus two large regions of Great Britain known as England and Wales. Over the water there is Northern Ireland, too.

If yesterday's question was anything to go by, Mr Smith is straddling Britain like a Colossus: one foot firmly planted in his Scottish front bench at Westminster, the other secure in Monklands East. Doing the splits like this, all one needs to guard against is a little tickle from the regions in between.

Supporters claim Mates is victim of dirty tricks campaign

By JONATHAN PEYNN

SUPPORTERS of Michael Mates yesterday blamed a "dirty tricks" campaign by embittered supporters of Baroness Thatcher for the downfall of the former Northern Ireland minister.

Peter Temple-Morris, the Tory MP for Leominster, speaking before the resignation announcement, said Mr Mates had made enemies within the party for supporting Michael Heseltine's leadership bid in 1990. Mr Temple-Morris said some people were "out to get" Mr Mates for his role in ending the Thatcher reign.

The fact the letter to the attorney-general was leaked on the day of the crucial 1922 committee meeting, was "undoubted evidence" that "there is a dirty tricks campaign against him", Mr Temple-Morris told BBC Radio's *World at One*.

Westminster had been buzzing all morning with speculation as to who leaked the letter. The attorney-general's office itself is regarded as an unlikely source, in part because of the furore over the letter leaked during the 1986 Westland crisis, from Sir Patrick Mayhew, the former solicitor-general, to Mr Heseltine by trade department officials.

However, the Mates letter will probably have also been circulated to the police, the Serious Fraud Office, the intelligence services and the Inland Revenue. All have axes to grind over the intervention into their investigation of Asil Nadir. The theory that Mr Mates or a supporter leaked the letter is being discounted. If it was done, to prove that his lobbying for Mr Nadir was in good faith, the tactic misfired.

Instead, the clever money at Westminster is backing Mr Nadir or a close adviser as the most plausible source. Mr Mates is likely to have passed on a copy of the letter to the Nadir camp for checking before sending it to the attorney-general's office.

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Speculation: Asil Nadir talks to the media about speculation that he was responsible for leaking Mates's letter

Metropolitan police officers and others check papers for the dates of their arrival and departure.

During their time in the Altin Kaya Hotel, they made extensive inquiries of the proprietor, Mr Fahri, about Mr Nadir, Polly Peck, and land and property in Northern Cyprus. Both of them travelled extensively, including a visit to Kiri to inquire in detail about land purchases there by the Nadir family. On their return, they told Mr Fahri that they had found that the Nadirs did indeed have extensive land holdings there. They left their visiting cards with Mr Fahri, and asked him to contact them if he had any further information about Mr Nadir.

Mr Savin gave his address as New Scotland Yard; Mr Jones gave his as

Leaked: part of the letter to Sir Nicholas Lyell, the attorney-general, from Michael Mates, which sealed his fate

Minister gives up fight for his job

Continued from page 1
now do what I can to put my part of the turmoil to rest. You need and deserve the staunch support of the whole party. It goes without saying that you have mine: now and for the future."

Mr Mates could not resist an attempt to lighten the occasion. He told Mr Major: "In retrospect, I rather wish I had sent the watch with its now famous message to you."

It was clear all week from close confidants of the prime minister that Mr Major felt unable to sack Mr Mates because he felt he had done nothing that warranted it. The prime minister had described the gift of the watch as an error of judgment but not a "hanging offence". It was clear, however, that Mr Major shared Mr Mates's view that he had become an embarrassment. Replying to Mr Mates last night Mr Major said he was sorry he had to stand aside from the government in circumstances like this. "But I am sure that you took the right decision with your usual sense of duty."

Downing Street sources refused to say whether Mr Major would eventually have dismissed Mr Mates had he not resigned.

Keith Hampson, MP Leeds North West and close friend of Mr Mates, said: "I am very sorry Michael has resigned. He will be a great loss to Northern Ireland. He raised serious questions about the conduct of the investigation of Mr Nadir which will need to be pursued."

Meanwhile, in Northern Cyprus, Mr Nadir handed journalists outside his villa a note saying: "I have just heard of Mr Michael Mates's resignation. At this stage I have no comment to make. Thank you, Asil Nadir."

Mr Nadir, who fled to the self-styled Turkish republic in breach of his bail conditions while awaiting trial on theft and false accounting charges, had earlier told Trevor Macdonald of ITN that he cherished the watch Mr Mates had sent him. He said he thought the gift was "most humane behaviour and nothing else".

Suspended Inland Revenue man denies letter allegations

By ANGELA MACKAY AND CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

MICHAEL Alcock, the Inland Revenue officer mentioned in the leaked Michael Mates letter to the attorney-general, is under investigation for allegations of corruption.

He is the former head of the Inland Revenue's Special Office 2, which has investigated several prominent City figures, including Asil Nadir. He was suspended from duty last October; the inquiry is still incomplete. Detectives are investigating allegations relating to Arab businessmen based in London but one connected with his

work on Mr Nadir's special tax status.

Mr Alcock says that Mr Mates's suggestion that he had disappeared in a "flight from justice" after his suspension is "incorrect". Mr Alcock is readily obtainable at his home in Colchester.

Mr Alcock said: "My lawyers take these latest revelations very seriously indeed and no doubt they will be making a statement."

The two Metropolitan police officers named in the Mates letter were members of the Aliens Registration Office who had returned a

deportee to northern Cyprus. Sources on the island suggest that the officers, Geoff Savin and David Jones, asked endless questions about Mr Nadir and his interests on the island but colleagues "on the Fraud Squad deny this was done at their suggestion. The Aliens Registration Office is located in the same building as the Fraud Squad in Holborn."

The officers made no secret of their presence on the island. Not only did the two register with police in northern Cyprus, they were seen by journalists in the bar at

the Nadir-owned Jasmine Court Hotel.

There were two visits by both men after the initial trip in October 1991. One involved a deportee who had arrived in Britain on Noble Air, owned by Mr Nadir's sister. They both returned separately in November.

The island's community were in no doubt that their principal task was gathering information about Mr Nadir. Scotland Yard said last night that the men had no association with or responsibility for the Nadir investigation.

Son sought gift back

Continued from page 1
but was spared a 30-month jail sentence because of ill health. In March 1991 he was stripped of his knighthood.

Jack Lyons was a regular major contributor to Conservative Party funds, donating £150,000 before the 1979 and 1983 general elections.

Lord Tebbit said in a recent BBC *Question Time* programme that a company like Guinness might have wanted to give money to the Tories. "We know subsequently that some senior members of that company were found to be guilty of serious offences. Those companies would have made their donations public."

A solicitor acting for Mr Jack Lyons told *The Times*: "Mr Lyons has never had any contribution returned by the Conservative Party."

Ian Botham

Ian Botham has asked us to point out that he was not sacked by Somerset County Cricket Club as incorrectly reported on June 23, in an article about Joel Garner. Mr Botham has recently been made an honorary life member of the club, and we apologise to him for any embarrassment our report may have caused.

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Link with Nadir proves one misjudgment too many for a man with few political allies

Old soldier who shot himself in the foot

51 days that led to Mates' exit

Michael Mates spent most of the Thatcher years in the political wilderness. Today he will return there

By Jill Sherman
Political Correspondent

MICHAEL Mates has long been regarded as a hamfisted figure by many of his colleagues. While his bluff, soldierly manner went down well with the security forces in Northern Ireland, it did not endear him to all his parliamentary colleagues, even those who shared his traditional, one-nation Tory views.

Mr Mates's late entry into that government last April surprised many MPs. They felt that he had blotted his copy book by rebelling over the poll tax and by failing to declare his interest in the defence company Link-Miles when he was chairman of the Commons defence committee. At the time he was accused by Sir Michael McNair-Wilson of a lapse of judgment.

Many thought that Mr Mates's high-profile role as Michael Heseltine's campaign manager during the leadership challenge in 1990 would have been enough to condemn him to permanent exile. His seat was under threat soon after, when activists in his Hampshire East constituency attempted to exact revenge for his part in the downfall of Margaret Thatcher.

John Major decided to defy the whips 14 months ago and give Mr Mates the job he wanted in Northern Ireland. The appointment was also a signal to Mr Heseltine that bridges were being mended. Mr Mates, 59, seemed ideally suited to the job as security minister after a career bound up with the army and the intelligence services, including service in Northern Ireland. He reached the rank of lieutenant colonel in The Queen's Dragon Guards and looks every inch the army officer, with his black bushy eyebrows and intimidating manner.

Friends say that Mr Mates is often unfairly maligned because of his brusque manner. "He has a dual personality," one colleague said. "On the one hand, he has his military trappings of high competence, but low tolerance levels and an impatient and

often aggressive manner. But on the other hand, he is genial, kind, generous-minded, always willing to help and good, sociable company. He plays the piano and does a terrific Noël Coward."

His abrasive style kept him at arm's length from the whips' office and from many of his backbench colleagues. MPs, always hesitant about rallying around a man going under, pointed out that Mr Mates had few close friends at Westminster who were willing to speak out publicly to support him — a disadvantage which hampered the demise of both David Mellor and Norman Lamont.

When it first emerged that Mr Mates had given Asil

Nadir a watch inscribed "Don't let the buggers get you down", several MPs agreed with Mr Major that the move had been unwise but not a "hanging offence". However, when it was disclosed that he had also borrowed a car from Mr Nadir's public relations adviser — after Mr Nadir had jumped bail — MPs felt that he had committed one too many errors of judgment.

The final straw was the leak of his letter to the attorney-general on Mr Nadir's behalf and the revelation that he had dined with Mr Nadir's public relations adviser on the eve of his resignation.

His supporters said yesterday that he had been unfairly judged by the press and that MPs were jumping on the media bandwagon by saying he should go. They argued that he became involved with Mr Nadir only because he was trying to right what he thought was an injustice. Mr Mates has always enjoyed political intrigue and gossip. His Machiavellian instincts contributed to his determination to ensure that Mr Nadir was not being set up by the intelligence services.

Mr Mates is no stranger to the political wilderness. He was out in the cold for years while Mrs Thatcher was prime minister because of his



Into the void: Michael Mates arriving at the Northern Ireland Office in London yesterday morning. He resigned after meeting John Major at 2pm

close alliance with William Whitelaw, James Prior and Francis Pym, who shared his wetish leanings.

Mr Mates struck a defiant pose during the Thatcher era by leading the rebels over the poll tax, calling for it to be related to ability to pay. He further alienated the whips by opposing charges for dental and eye tests. Though dismissive of many Thatcherite policies, he is right-wing on law and order, advocating capital punishment for terrorists.

His brief tenure as security minister earned him the respect of many nationalists and some unionists (Edward Gorman writes). After a series of early blunders, he kept a low profile, earning him the nickname among unionist critics of "minister in hiding".

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'I rather wish I'd sent the watch with its famous message to you'

THIS is the full text of Michael Mates's letter of resignation to John Major, and the prime minister's reply.

Dear Prime Minister,

When I came to see you earlier today, it was to rehearse to you what I told your office some days ago, namely that, if the continuing saga over the representations I made to the Attorney General were embarrassing and damaging the Government, I would stand aside.

I believe that this is now the case and, although I have done nothing improper, the daily leaking of letters and so-called quotes from unknown sources — most of them wildly inaccurate — is causing such cumulative damage to the important work of govern-

ment that I must do what I can to bring it to an end. I therefore wish to go.

The past 14 months have been the happiest and most fulfilling of my political life.

Working for Paddy Mayhew, a wise and brave Secretary of State, and being part of a Government facing huge

challenges, which we are starting to overcome, has been an unforgettable experience.

Thank you for giving me the chance to serve. I shall now do what I can to put my part of the turmoil to rest. You need and deserve the staunch support of the whole party. It

goes without saying that you have mine: now and for the future.

In retrospect, I rather wish I had sent the watch with its now famous message to you.

Yours ever, Michael
Dear Michael,

As I explained when you asked to see me, I fully accept that you acted with complete propriety in raising with the Attorney General the concerns that had been put to you about Mr Nadir's case. I made it clear, as I have done in Parliament, that I have no criticisms of your actions on that account. I do, however, understand the reasons why you have decided you must stand down from the govern-

ment, and I respect them. I am most grateful for all the work you have done in the Northern Ireland Office since the election. You have handled the very difficult security portfolio with great fortitude and skill, as well as dealing with finance and personnel issues. It is a job that makes immense demands, which you have met fully and effectively. I know that Paddy Mayhew shares that view.

I am sorry that you had to stand aside from the Government in circumstances like this. But I am sure that you took the right decision with your usual sense of duty. I am most grateful to you for your warm words of continuing support.

Yours ever, John

THE events that led to the resignation of Michael Mates began in early May.

May 4: Mr Nadir jumps bail of £3.5 million and flees.

May 30: Mr Nadir's lawyers confirm Mr Mates gave him watch. Labour MPs call for explanation.

May 31: Mr Nadir praises Mr Mates's "unflinching help" in fight for justice. Mr Mates says gift of watch was "light-hearted gesture".

June 7: John Major says through Downing Street officials Mr Mates's resignation neither sought nor offered.

June 7: Michael Heseltine defends conversation with Sir Nicholas Lyell, attorney-general, in which he passed on Mr Nadir's complaints about handling of case.

June 8: John Major tells MPs Mr Mates guilty of "misjudgement, but not a hanging

THE TIMETABLE

offence".
June 15: Tories admit Mr Nadir gave £440,000 to party funds.

June 16: Sir Norman Fowler, Tory chairman, promises to repay any Nadir money that proves to be stolen.

June 17: Mr Nadir says he has evidence of scandal bigger than Watergate.

June 17: Lord McAlpine of West Green, former Tory treasurer, admits he was wrong to accept £440,000 from Mr Nadir.

June 18: Mr Major and Mr Heseltine challenge Mr Nadir to "put up or shut up".

June 20: Sunday papers disclose Mr Mates borrowed a car for estranged wife from Mr Nadir's public relations adviser.

June 22: Tories and Saudi prince deny *Guardian* story of £7 million gift.

June 24: *Daily Mail* publishes text of Mr Mates' letter to attorney-general.

10.30am: Mr Mates leaves Northern Ireland office declaring business as usual.

1pm: Mr Mates' office arranges meeting with Mr Major.

2pm: Mr Mates sees Mr Major, offers resignation, accepted "with regret".

3.16pm: Mr Major announces resignation in Commons.

Few Tories have sympathy for third minister to be forced out

By Nicholas Wood
Political Correspondent

CONSERVATIVE MPs were left with mixed feelings last night as Michael Mates became the third minister to be driven from office since the general election 14 months ago.

The majority were not sorry to see the departure of the minister whose entanglement with Asil Nadir has blighted the whole party. But at the same time, many MPs, no friends of the abrasive Mr Mates, were left wondering who was running the government: the prime minister, the backbenchers or the media.

William Powell, the MP for Corby who, like Mr Mates, has close links with Michael Heseltine and the left of the party, said: "This is a very sad



Dispatched: John Major announces Mates's resignation

"shambolic" manner of Mr Mates's exit — announced at the Commons dispatch box by Mr Major to a gasp from the House. He said the Northern Ireland security minister had been left "twisting in the wind" for weeks when firm action was needed.

Mr Cran, MP for Beverley, pointed out that David Mellor and Norman Lamont had lingered far longer than Mr Mates, but most of his colleagues were seeing parallels in the three departures rather than differences.

One senior member of the executive of the 1922 backbench committee said all three ministers had clung to power and sought to implicate Mr

Major in their increasingly desperate efforts to survive.

Mr Mates had been the most brazen, he said, seizing on the prime minister's equivocal public endorsement of him and claiming that he enjoyed Downing Street's "full confidence".

The 1922 member thought that Mr Mates might have avoided resignation had he not made the fatal error of dining with Asil Nadir's public relations adviser at the Reform Club on Wednesday evening.

He said that although the 1922 executive was lined up against Mr Mates, the minister still had some powerful friends. At least one influential

member of the committee telephoned Mr Mates yesterday morning to assure him of his full support, and to say he would be warning his colleagues that the prime minister ran the government and not the 18-strong executive.

Mr Mates's friends were soon to discover, however, that the combined power of backbench opinion — at least two to one against the minister — and the torrent of media revelations were irresistible.

A senior right-wing Tory judged that overall the party had reached the right decision. "Apart from the media hounding aspect, there was the question of Mr Mates's judgment. Then, he was carrying a great deal of baggage from his days with Michael Heseltine. Finally, this was a bolt that had to be lanced, otherwise as the Nadir affair dragged on, as it will, so would the Mates saga."

Some observers at Westminster thought the manner of Mr Mates's dispatch amounted to a public execution by the prime minister. But loyalist ministers said Mr Major had handled things well. By waiting for Mr Mates to tender his resignation, he had made it harder for the fallen minister to cry foul.

Finally there was the old-fashioned question of honour. One privy councillor said the "integrity of office" mattered far more than the fate of one man. On that count alone, Mr Mates had to go.

Jam, not oil, keeps party wheels greased

By John Young

JAM from the gardens and kitchens of rural England, not oil from the desert, is the source of Conservative party funds, according to Lord McAlpine of West Green, the former party treasurer.

In this week's *Spectator* he dismisses the idea that barrel-loads of money emanate from foreign potentates who might have some reason to fear a Labour government here. "The fact is that the Conservatives get most of their money from their supporters in the cities, towns, villages and hamlets of this country, money given by ordinary people because they have little enthusiasm for socialism," he says. On Tuesday *The*

Guardian suggested that £7 million was delivered in cash by private jet to Tory party's headquarters from Saudi Arabia just before the 1992 election. Lord McAlpine rejects the report as fantasy. "In the 15 years that I was treasurer, the king of Saudi Arabia never sent me a

cent. I take this opportunity to thank him and his family for their self-restraint. It saved me the obvious embarrassment of sending it back.

"*The Guardian* has talked of £7 million in cash being flown over before the last election; £7 million in cash. The

poor dear things at Conservative Central Office would not have known what to do with several fork-lift truck-loads of used fivers left in the front hall.

"I am afraid that most Tory money is raised by the selling of jam."

Lord McAlpine admits that accepting money from Asil Nadir was a mistake. "But it was understandable if you take into account the fact that his company won the Queen's Award for Export, and that Mr Nadir himself addressed the CBI conference."

Lord McAlpine reveals that he once had to have lunch with him in his capacity as treasurer. "He made no lasting impression on me at all — I cannot recall our conversation."

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Ministers plan new powers to lock up young offenders

By RICHARD FORD
AND NICHOLAS WATT

MINISTERS are preparing a further crackdown on teenage tearaways by giving courts the power to send delinquents directly into council-run secure accommodation.

The proposal comes as the mother of a teenage gang-leader who attacked businesses in Sutton, south London, demanded that magistrates have the power to lock up her son for a "short sharp shock". Her son, aged 14, leads the Sutton High Street Burglary Posse, which has allegedly stolen and damaged property worth £1.5 million during the past 18 months. They became so confident that they often left a calling-card bearing the initials of the gang and its individual members with advice at the bottom to "Ring 999".

Last night the mother said: "My son should be in a secure unit just for his own safety. I can't control him and I don't want someone to knock on my door saying he is dead. He is addicted to crime and doesn't know how to stop."

"If he had been put away at an early age for a short sharp shock the problem might have been solved. He has now picked up so much knowledge that he has gone to the extreme."

The boy was now a hardened criminal passing on experience to younger children,

The mother of a delinquent 14-year-old wants greater authority for magistrates to give her son a 'short, sharp shock'

she added. "He is teaching all the young kids to drive. He can break into an Astra GTE car with a teaspoon in seconds."

The gang, with a hard core of six boys aged 13 to 16 and a further 12 on the fringe, have plagued shops in Sutton for two years. But police in the area believe they are curbing their activities, with only 73 residential and commercial burglaries recorded this month compared with double that three months ago.

Supt Ray Newark of Sutton police admitted that because of their success the gang had moved its operations to other towns including Crawley, Oxford and Redhill.

Under the government's latest proposals to deal with juvenile crime, youth courts would be able to impose a condition that young offenders aged ten and over who are given a supervision order should live in secure accommodation run by local councils. At present magistrates can impose a condition of residence, but it is the local authority that decides the type of accommodation in which the offender is kept.

The Home Office said last night: "We are considering

giving the courts the power to say that an offender placed on supervision must live in local authority secure accommodation rather than leaving the decision to the authority."

This is in addition to proposals to create the new penalty of a secure training order for persistent offenders aged 12 to 15 who have committed three or more offences.

The additional power is intended to help the police and courts deal with gangs such as that in Sutton. Supt Newark said: "We are talking about a very, very small minority of people who have no fear of arrest, no fear of being caught and no fear of what will happen to them eventually."

The Sutton gang leader comes from a one parent family. He appeared at Sutton Youth Court in March on 21 charges including actual bodily harm and burglary and received a one-year supervision order.

Four days ago he appeared again on three charges of burglary, interfering with a motor vehicle, driving while disqualified by reason of age and having no insurance. He was ordered to go to an attendance centre for 24 hours.

Nessie pops up in time for loch survey



Deep mystery: Edna MacInnes, who says she has seen the Loch Ness monster, sits by the loch with her son Aaron yesterday. The monster had put in an appearance just days before the planned launch of a biological survey of the loch (Nigel Hawkes writes).

There was a grateful chuckle from those behind the second stage of Project

Urquhart. "I had nothing to do with it," protested Maria Morgan, of Discovery Channel, an American television station which is financially backing the study. "If I'd thought of it, though..."

Miss MacInnes saw the monster on Tuesday night when driving with her boy friend near Abriachan. "We watched it swim over," she said. "It

hovered. Its head was moving back and forward, its neck was moving up and down."

She was backed by James Mackintosh, who was on a fishing trip with his son on the same evening. Mr Mackintosh said yesterday: "I saw a brown, giraffe-like neck sticking about six feet out of the water."

60% of very premature babies are disabled

By JEREMY LAURANCE
HEALTH SERVICES
CORRESPONDENT

TWO thirds of babies born very prematurely suffer mental or physical disability as a result, according to the largest study of premature births carried out in Britain.

Many of the children have only mild problems which may require additional help at school, but almost 24 per cent have severe disabilities such as being blind, deaf, unable to walk or mentally retarded.

The study of 342 babies, born before 29 weeks' gestation in the Oxford region between 1984 and 1986, found that the risk of disability rose with declining gestational age.

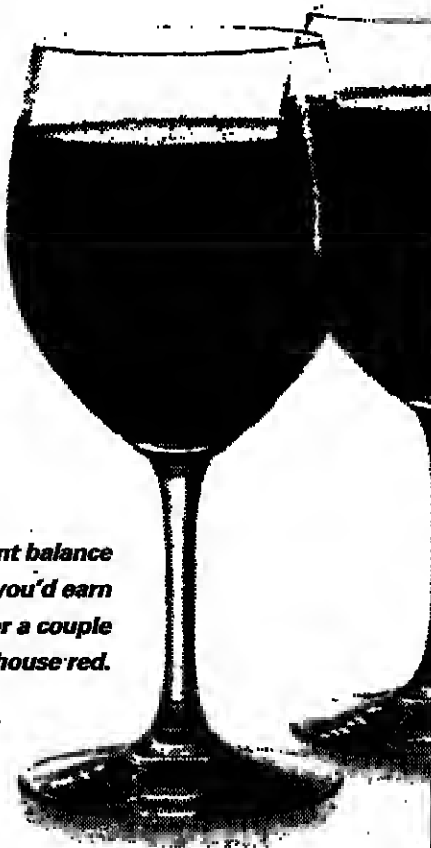
Half of the babies survived and of 164 tested when they reached the age of four, only 54 (35 per cent) were unimpaired. Thirty five (23 per cent) were severely disabled and will require extensive care throughout their lives.

The researchers were led by Dr Ann Johnson of the National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit at Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford. Writing in the *British Medical Journal*, they say the findings raise difficult questions for doctors and patients about the wisdom of resuscitating very premature babies. □ A safer method of detecting disorders such as Down's Syndrome may soon be widely available. Cerebral palsy will not damage the foetus because it does not involve puncturing the amniotic membrane, a report in *The Lancet* says.

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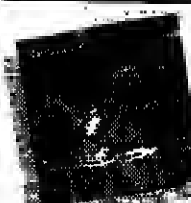
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Bishops agree plan to prevent defections

By RUTH GLEDHILL
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

BISHOPS in the Church of England yesterday disclosed their proposals to prevent mass defections over the issue of women priests. The effect of the proposals will be to delay the ordination of the first women until Easter at the earliest.

The bishops agreed to an "act of synod" to safeguard the rights of dissenters, including the assurance that they will not suffer job discrimination. The act will not be morally binding, but opponents of women priests want it to have legal status.

The Bishop of Salisbury, Dr John Baker, was the only one to abstain from the vote at the end of the bishops' three-day meeting in Manchester. He said that the plan led to "two churches in one" and would mean that priests were ordained who rejected the official teaching of the church.

The bishops outlined for the first time the process to "test" a woman's vocation for the priesthood. All women will be tested before they are ordained, as are men. The time involved in the tests is likely to dash hopes that the first women priests might be ordained by February.

The proposals will be debated by the General Synod in York next month. The testing process cannot begin until both houses of Parliament have debated the measure to ordain women priests and the Queen has given her assent. □ The Church Commissioners, who manage the property and investments of the church, yesterday disclosed a £1.5 million fall in income last year. Total assets have fallen by £750 million since 1989.

The fall in income is the first since the commissioners were founded in 1948. The first estates commissioner, Sir Michael Colman, said the drop came at a time when expenditure increased.

For the first time, spending on clergy stipends fell, although wages remained at an average £12,800. Only an increase in giving by church members has saved the church from more serious financial difficulties.

Eight held in smuggled beer raids

By ROBIN YOUNG

CUSTOMS investigators were yesterday questioning eight men after impounding 11 tonnes of illegally imported beer found in raids on warehouses in London and the Home Counties.

It was the biggest seizure of its kind since import restrictions on goods from within the EC were relaxed on January 1, since when no duty has been levied on alcohol or tobacco imported for personal use and not for resale.

Gangs of smugglers have

tried to take advantage of the new rule to evade duty on goods they intend to sell. In the first prosecution for such an offence earlier this month, an off-licence in Bristol was fined £1,500 after being found guilty of evading £400 in tobacco duty.

A Customs and Excise spokesman said the revenue payable on the beer seized in yesterday's early morning raids was estimated at £50,000. He said that, acting on intelligence reports, investigators had watched the gang making three cross-Channel

trips a week in the last ten weeks.

Some of the beer had been exported from Britain in bond, and then brought back into the country without paying duty. The remainder was French beer on which no British duty had been paid. In a year, the gang could have expected to profit to the tune of £250,000 in unpaid duty.

So far this year, excise verification officers, trained to trace illegally imported alcohol and tobacco offered for sale, have made more than 30 arrests.

Police arrest nine in hunt for bombers

At least nine people were arrested in raids early yesterday by police hunting members of an IRA cell responsible for a series of bombings in the North East (Paul Wilkinson writes). Armed officers detained the occupants of three houses in North Shields as well as four men in two vans stopped at roadblocks near by.

As police stopped the first van at gunpoint, rush-hour commuters were diverted off a flyover on the main road from North Shields to Newcastle upon Tyne. Witnesses said the driver of a white transit van was held spreadeagled on the hard shoulder. At the same time a camper van was stopped at a checkpoint on a roundabout on the outskirts of Newcastle and three men were arrested.

In the past two months a former Esso fuel storage terminal at North Shields has been bombed twice. Ten days ago a gas storage plant in Gateshead was bombed. In May, 12 firebombs were planted at the town's Metro centre shopping complex.

Wheelclamp blackmail

Two wheelclamps were fined £500 each in what is believed to be the first case of blackmailing motorists. Glenn Mason, 33, and Dale Eason, 25, ran a company that removed cars parked on land near a nightclub in central Nottingham. They refused to tell the owners where the cars had been taken, until they paid up to £120. A jury of five men and six women at Birmingham Crown Court took five hours to reach its verdict. Tony Wilkinson, solicitor for Eason and Mason, said after the hearing that an appeal was being considered.

Road deaths down

Road deaths in the first quarter of this year, at 864, were the lowest since records began in 1926, according to figures published yesterday. There were 10,081 serious injuries, a fall of 10 per cent on the same period last year, and 56,068 slight injuries, a fall of six per cent. There were 403 car user deaths compared with 463 in the same quarter of 1992.

Language case lost

A father lost a High Court application yesterday to have his Welsh-speaking daughter, 13, taught mainly in English. Two judges ruled that the father's request for a judicial review, based on his belief that the girl would be educated mainly in Welsh, was premature. The school authorities, in Gwynedd, had not yet made that decision.

Three awarded £90,000

Three men who were wrongfully arrested near News International at Wapping, east London, during riots in 1987, were awarded damages and costs totalling £90,000 at Edmonson Crown Court. The Metropolitan Police apologised to George Hickman, Martin Wheeler and Jeff Charlton, all from the West Midlands.

Bacon tops art sale

A Francis Bacon painting made the top price in a contemporary art sale at Sotheby's in London yesterday. *Study for a Portrait*, an early work dating from 1952, made £562,500 (estimate £300,000-£400,000), and his portrait of the artist Lucian Freud made £221,500. At Christie's in London Bacon's *Figure Turning* went for £529,500.

Details of one of Britain's most sensational criminal trials have been released to the Public Record Office

Crippen protested innocence until death

By MICHAEL DYNES, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

HAWLEY Harvey Crippen, the convicted wife-murderer hanged in 1910 after one of the most sensational trials in English criminal history, protested his innocence right up until his death, secret documents released for the first time yesterday showed.

Extracts from letters written by Crippen to his youthful lover, Ethel Le Neve, in the closing days of his life, speak of a miscarriage of justice, while entreating her to find the "fresh evidence" that could set him free.

Although clearly reconciled to his fate, Crippen said: "Face to face with God in whose presence my soul shall soon stand for final judgment, I still maintain that I have been unjustly convicted."

Face to face with God, in whose presence my soul shall soon stand. I still maintain that I have been unjustly convicted.

The documents, which were originally intended to remain secret for 100 years, partly because of the extraordinary press and public interest in the gruesome details of the case, have been released at the Public Record Office at Kew under the so-called Waldegrave initiative for more open government.

Crippen, an American-born seller of patent medicines, fled Britain with his mistress after poisoning his wife, Cora, in their home in Hilldrop Crescent, north London. Mrs Crippen's bones, limbs and head had been removed from the discovered remains, which

were found under the coal cellar. Organs were also removed, making it anatomically impossible for doctors to identify the sex of the remains.

The two fugitives were arrested by Scotland Yard detectives on the high seas while making their escape to Quebec on the SS *Montrose*.

The captain of the vessel had identified the couple from descriptions sent from London, in what was the first occasion that suspects were apprehended by means of wireless telegraphy. In one of his letters to Miss Le Neve, Crippen said: "I solemnly state that I knew nothing of the remains discovered at Hilldrop Crescent until I was told of the discovery by my solicitor Mr Newton on the next day after my arrival at Bow Street."

Crippen insisted: "My conviction, was obtained on purely circumstantial evidence, and I am absolutely positive that if I had had at my disposal a sum equal to that spent by the Crown on the prosecution, the important points of that evidence would have been rebutted so decisively that a connection would have been impossible."

Crippen went on to challenge much of the evidence, linking him to the human remains found in the coal cellar, although he makes no mention of the lethal dose of hydrobromide of hyoscine which he was accused of administering to his wife during a dinner party at his home.

Crippen acknowledged that his flight was foolish. "But put yourself in my place," he said. "Suddenly confronted by an inspector from Scotland Yard, threatened with arrest if the missing woman's whereabouts were not shortly revealed, and told by him that the newspapers would be ringing with the details... what did this mean to me?—separation from the one I loved most in the world... my immediate thought was to take my loved one away where we could begin a new life."

Among the papers was a memorandum from the governor of Pentonville prison, describing Crippen's last hours in jail before he was hanged on November 23. On one occasion Crippen broke down "and was crying for fully 10 minutes" it said.

This was the first sign of emotion from a man who had remained cool throughout the terrible cross-examination, which included pieces of his dead wife's skin being passed around the court room in a soup plate as evidence. Dozens of letters from sympathetic members of the public were included in the batch of documents, many of which appealed to Winston Churchill, the home secretary, to show clemency towards Crippen. There was also a hoax letter from Cora Crippen, claiming to be alive and living in Canada. In a letter to Churchill, the trial judge said: "It is sufficient to say that the identification of the remains with those of Cora Crippen was clearly proved and no doubt arose as to the prisoner being the man who had procured the poison and disposed of the body."

"I can see no grounds which should prevent the death sentence being carried into effect."

The SOE was created by the War Cabinet in July 1940 with instructions from Churchill to "set Europe ablaze". The War Cabinet knew by late 1942 that the Germans had ordered production of heavy water (deuterium oxide) to be increased at the Norsk hydro plant near Oslo, which was seen in London as the prelude to an atomic bomb. A team of specially trained Norwegian saboteurs lay in wait for three months over the winter before mounting a surprise attack on the installation.

"The Germans were overwhelmed before the alarm was given or a shot fired," the SOE reported to Churchill in March 1943. "The vital importance of heavy water in secret scientific warfare will be known to the prime minister. It is estimated that production of this very special product has been stopped for 12 months."

After receiving the report, Churchill wrote: "What rewards are to be given to these heroic men?" More than 9,000 men and women worked for SOE at the height of its operations in 1944. Historians have highlighted the huge human cost of some of these operations, and attempts by the intelligence bureaucracy to cover up details of its failures.

The papers released yesterday will be held at the Public Record Office in Kew, southwest London.

Secrets revealed: Crippen, left, wrote a letter, top, from prison to his lover, Ethel Le Neve, claiming his innocence. Among papers released to the Public Record Office yesterday was a telegram sent by Scotland Yard to a consular office, bottom, the first time wireless telegraphy was used in the pursuit of a criminal



I face with God in whose presence my soul shall stand for final judgment I still maintain I have been unjustly convicted and my belief that will yet be forthcoming I prove my innocence by state that I know nothing of the remains discovered at Hilldrop Crescent until I was told of the discovery by my solicitor Mr Newton on the next day after my arrival at Bow Street

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United Kingdom and Colonies of a woman Harriet Crippen alias Peter Crippen and Frankel on November 23rd 1910. Age 50, 5 feet 5 or 6, complexion fresh, hair light brown inclined sandy hair and

Builders offered advice on wildlife

By TIM JONES
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

ROAD builders were yesterday offered advice on how to care for verges, which are rapidly becoming the last refuge of rare plants, voles, kestrels and butterflies.

The 12,000 miles of verge on the trunk road and motorway network represents an area greater than the Isle of Wight. Some of the verges have been designated as sites of special scientific interest where Essex skippers, gatekeepers and other butterflies find nectar from flowers and grasses which they cannot find on agricultural land.

Launching *The Wildflower Handbook* yesterday, Robert Key, the roads minister, said it demonstrated his department's commitment to integrating transport with the environment.

The guide, prepared with the assistance of experts from the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology, based in Cumbria, gives practical advice to road designers on introducing wild flowers, which might otherwise take many years to become established. The guide will help builders decide which species to plant.

Mr Key said: "Natural colonisation has occurred on many of our older roads, but by sowing or planting as part of the main construction contract, we will be able to establish flowers which offer both visual interest to road users and also provide islands or corridors of nature conservation value."

In its annual report, published yesterday, the Council for the Protection of Rural England said it was particularly concerned with the environmental impact of the government's "road-oriented transport policies".

During the year, it said, two reports had been published that demonstrated how the road programme contradicted the stated commitment to protecting the environment.

Leading article, page 17
Photograph, page 22

How saboteurs destroyed Hitler's atom-bomb plans

DETAILS of some of the most daring sabotage operations of the second world war were released to the public yesterday (Michael Dynes writes). Among them was the inside story of the Special Operations Executive's Operation Gunnerside, which destroyed a Nazi heavy-water plant in Norway and eliminated any prospect of Hitler building an atomic bomb.

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MPs condemn Gulf rifle as 'danger to troops'

By Jonathan Prynn

BRITISH soldiers were put at risk in the Gulf war because their state-of-the-art rifles could not cope with desert conditions and became clogged with sand.

A damning report from an influential committee of MPs, published yesterday, condemns the potentially "disastrous consequences" of the SA 80 rifle jamming during the 1991 conflict.

Delays in informing Gulf war troops how to clean their rifles in the desert was the main cause of the problems, the defence committee's report concludes.

The all-party MPs also criticise the "shoddy" design and testing of the SA 80. The British designed rifle, on which the defence ministry has spent £384 million, has been dogged by technical difficulties since testing on it began in the 1970s.

Gulf war troop commanders told the committee the rifle did not cope well with sand and "casualties would have been suffered because of weapon stoppages had the enemy put up more resistance in close combat".

The committee, which is chaired by Sir Nicholas

A damning all-party report points to the 'potential disastrous consequences' of the MoD's procurements procedure

Bonsor, the Tory MP for Uxminster, says the stoppages were mainly caused by incorrect lubrication and cleaning procedures deployed by less experienced troops.

"It was not until September 1990, four years after the weapon came into service and on the eve of a major conflict, that a note on the correct cleaning regime for sandy conditions was disseminated."

The most damning comments in the report, which amounts to a searing critique of the defence ministry's procurement performance, are reserved for the catalogue of technical weaknesses exposed in the testing of the rifle and the cost and delay in making necessary modifications. The faults included:

- Spontaneous firing of the rifle if dropped;
- An easily broken safety catch, firing pin and bolt release button;
- Triggers that had to be flicked back manually into position after firing;

□ A bayonet that could fall off and break at the tip;

□ An inadequate cleaning kit.

The MPs were "astonished that the ministry should accept into service, and pay for, equipment such as the cleaning kit that appears to us to verge on the shoddy".

They said: "Steps must be taken by the Ministry of Defence to ensure that even the mass-produced, relatively low technology goods it procures are supplied to reasonable standards and quality."

More than 30 modifications, taking up to four years each, had to be made to the SA 80 after the weapon went into production.

It is not yet clear who will pay for the £24 million cost of the modifications but according to the committee "it will be an outrage if the ministry find they are liable".

The report concludes that with the modifications the SA 80 is "a highly accurate weapon which is sound when properly maintained".



Desert liability: troops carrying the SA 80 rifle in the sands of the Gulf. MPs reported the weapons became clogged

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sainsbury's fined over Sundays

Sainsbury's, the supermarket chain, was yesterday fined £10,000 with £4,102 costs at Cambridge after being found guilty of illegal Sunday trading for the first time since it started opening some 160 stores on Sundays before Christmas 1991.

The group said after the case, in which it pleaded not guilty to four charges of illegal Sunday trading brought by Cambridge City Council, that it would appeal and that until the appeal was heard it would continue to open on Sundays.

A spokesman said the store was regularly used by 6,000 shoppers every Sunday.

Marathon heart death

John Bailey, 47, suffered a heart attack without realising it 10 to 14 days before he died in the NutraSweet London marathon, Southward Coroner's Court heard.

Dr Michael Heath, a pathologist, said Mr Bailey, 47, of Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, had a seriously diseased heart and could have died "at any time". Verdict: death from natural causes.

Reward for woman's killers

Police in Birmingham have offered a reward of £5,000 for information about the killers of a 67-year-old woman, found by her brother in a linen chest at her maisonette in Ladywood.

Detectives believe Betty Barrett was beaten to death when she disturbed burglars.

Two in court

Youths aged 16 and 17 were remanded in care when they appeared at Lewisham Youth Court charged with murdering Stephen Lawrence, 18, in southeast London in April.

Déjà viewed

An enquiry was launched after 180 girls at Newlands School, Maidenhead, Berkshire, found six questions they were set in a GCSE science exam were the same as those in a recent mock exam.

Murder charge

Duncan Gilchrist, 36, of Pershore, Hereford and Worcester, was remanded in custody when he appeared in court at Evesham charged with shooting dead Gillian Haynes, 48, in Pershore on Tuesday.

Dog deterrent

West Yorkshire police have been issued with electric shields to protect them from savage dogs.

Care bears

Teddy bears are being added to the equipment on fire tenders in West Sussex to comfort children involved in fires.

Surgeons win libel damages

FOUR surgeons accused of being lazy and draining the National Health Service to boost their private incomes won substantial libel damages in the High Court yesterday. The four, all fellows of the Royal College of Surgeons, sued over allegations in an article in *The Sunday Times* last October.

Their solicitor, Julie Scott-Bayfield, told Mr Justice Drake that the newspaper reported an analysis of the official NHS performance indicators for 1990-1, carried out by the unit of health service management at Birmingham University.

The article alleged that John Nicholas, of Berkhamstead, Hertfordshire; Michael Orniston, of Markyate, Hertfordshire; Geoffrey Sagar, of Hemstead, northwest London; and Julian Townsend, of St Albans, had averaged only 457 operations per doctor in a year.

In fact they each carried out 1,457 operations at St Albans City and Hemel Hempstead hospitals, more than the national average, and were not badly managed, disorganised or inefficient as the newspaper also alleged, Mrs Scott-Bayfield said.

Times Newspapers, publisher of *The Sunday Times*, accepted that some of the figures supplied to the unit, upon which it based its report, were incorrect. It agreed to pay damages and the consultants' legal costs.

OFT to examine holiday operators

By Harvey Elliott, Travel Correspondent

HOLIDAY-makers are being denied the chance of seeing brochures produced by small independent tour operators, and are having to choose from those distributed by a few big multiple companies, it was claimed last night.

The growing trend towards large tour operators owning both the airlines which carry holiday-makers and the travel agency through which they book is to be investigated by the Office of Fair Trading (OFT).

The move was welcomed by small tour operators who believe they are being unfairly squeezed by the large companies. Many fear they could be forced out of business unless they are protected against the dominant multiples.

See Gokwell of the Association of Independent Tour Operators said yesterday: "The average travel agency has space for between 100 and 150 different brochures. As the biggest three companies produce at least 70 themselves, there is not much space left for the smaller companies to try to compete. We believe strongly

that each travel agency which is owned by a multiple should be forced to tell its customers which chain it belongs to and what commission it pays."

Small tour operators are often forced to pay up to 17 per cent commission to the travel agent for each holiday sold on its behalf while the big multiples only pay 10 per cent.

With the larger companies also able to negotiate much lower rates for their airline seats and hotel rooms and with travel agency staff being paid, in some cases, a bonus of around £2 for each holiday they sell from a particular brochure, the small independent is under even greater financial pressure, and often has to charge prices far higher than the big chains.

The OFT will also want to investigate the way some tour operators push their own brochures through the travel agencies they own.

There are more than 5,000 small independent travel agencies in Britain who represent 74 per cent of the shops, but who between them sell 48 per cent of the holidays.

Man fired for 496 ill days

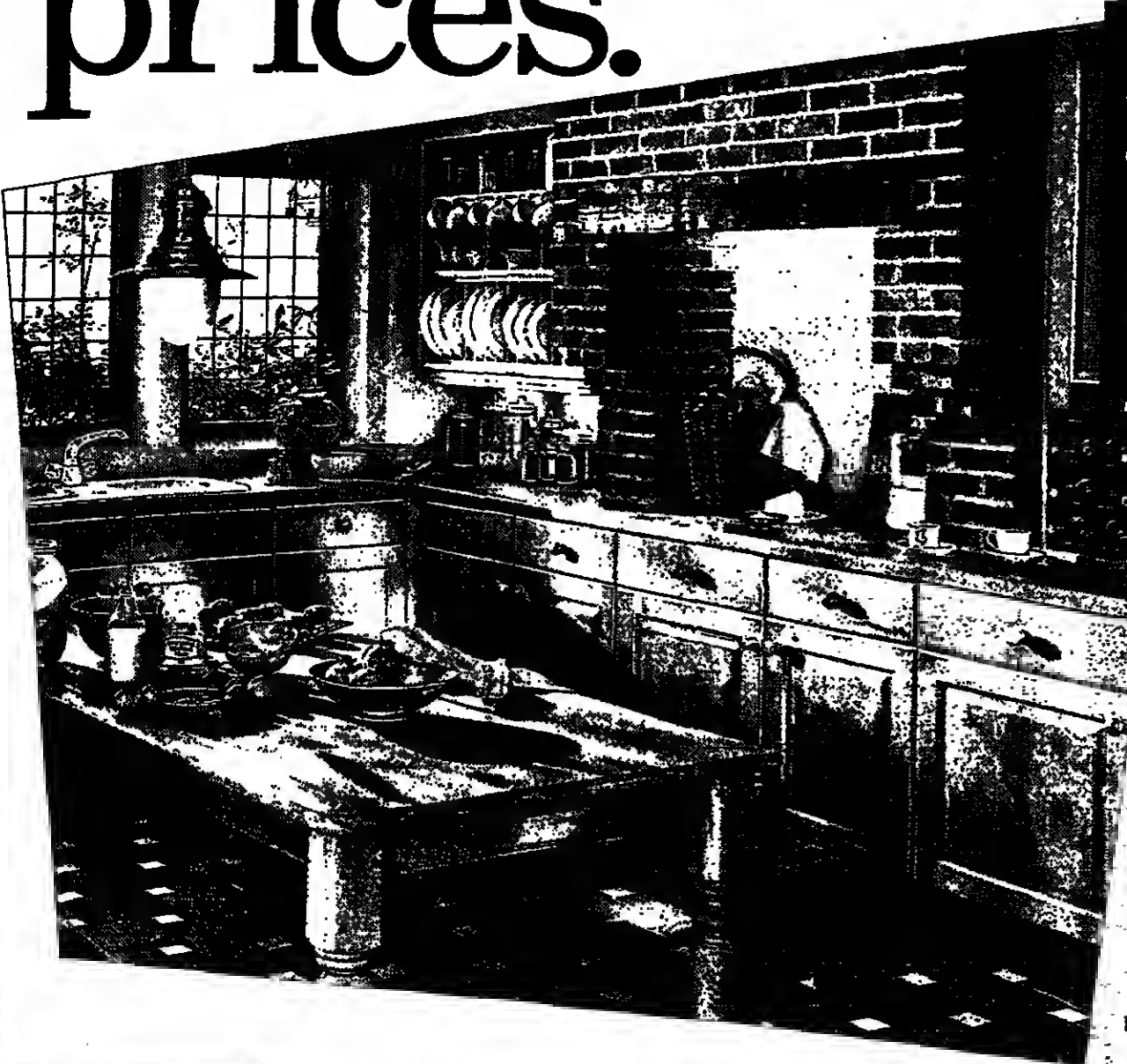
A NORTH London council has fired a road sweeper who took 496 days off sick in four years - almost one day off for every one worked.

Opposition councillors are calling for Labour-run Islington Council, which loses an estimated £11 million a year through absenteeism, to hold an inquiry into why it took so long to sack Eric Payne, 40.

Mr Payne's record of time off for illness included 67 days for a sprained finger, 55 days to recover from a tooth abscess and 274 days for a stomach ache and ulcer.

He appealed against the decision but failed to appear for his hearing before the council's personnel sub-committee when his sacking was rubber-stamped.

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So why compromise when you can now get the highest quality, the best advice and the perfect kitchen for your home - all at a price that can't be beaten.

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OPENING TIMES: Monday-Saturday 9.00-5.30. Selected stores open Thursday late till 8.00 and Sunday 10.00-4.00.

Previous price for all in kitchen shown £4,975. Includes all cabinets, plate rack, worktops, bins, Teflon sink and monobloc mixer tap.

مكتبة لائف

Conservationists fear effect of 'non-polluting' energy on countryside

Opposition to wind farm plans grows

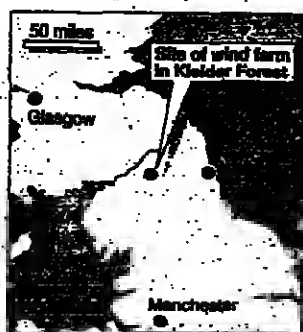
By Nick Nuttall
TECHNOLOGY
CORRESPONDENT

DEVELOPERS eager to generate electricity from the wind are set to deluge the government with proposals that could lead to increased tension between wind farmers and countryside groups.

A survey of operators seeking approval under a special trade and industry levy, the Non Fossil Fuel Obligation, has found that plans for more than 1,100 megawatts of wind energy are waiting to be lodged, including one for Europe's biggest wind farm in Kielder forest, Northumberland. If all the schemes were approved they could provide non-polluting electricity for up to 230 million people, but could also lead to the erection of more than 4,000 turbines across the countryside.

The scale of proposals, uncovered in a survey by Friends of the Earth, is likely to place the government in a difficult position. Industry sources claim the trade and industry department has plans to support less than 100Mw in its latest levy, to be announced later this summer. This could spark claims by environmental groups and developers that the government's green energy policy is a mirage.

Even a modest increase in



the wind programme is likely to worry groups such as the Countryside Commission. They claim the public have yet to appreciate the impact that wind farms will have on the landscape.

Ian Mitchell, head of environmental protection at the commission, said yesterday they were not against wind power in principle but were worried about the increase in turbines and the size of schemes being contemplated in or near sensitive sites.

The Kielder project alone is an 80Mw project and would require the clearing of 2,000 acres of conifers to erect some 270 turbines at a site in the shadow of the Northumberland national park.

There are fears that, despite assurances from developer, the turbines could present a serious visual intrusion, ruining views from the park

and across from Hadrian's Wall, a World Heritage site, eight miles away from the hill.

Trigen, the consortium of British wind developers, a Japanese finance house and a Californian wind farm company planning the scheme, claim the project will be erected in an environmentally sensitive way and will take only 1.5 per cent of the forest.

However, Graham Taylor, chief officer of the park, said yesterday: "The company involved is very responsible and professional... but this push to encourage wind farms is a bit like the Klondike Gold Rush." He said the way the levy was structured meant developers needed to maximise returns quickly. This was forcing developers to pack turbines in and push them near sensitive sites, such as national parks, where winds are often strong.

Mr Mitchell said to generate 10 per cent of the nation's electricity required the erection of up to 40,000 turbines and an area equivalent to the Lake District national park.



Wind power: turbines are clean, but conservationists are concerned that they would ruin the landscape



THE TIMES WORLD CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP



By Raymond Keene
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

TODAY'S game is a brilliant tour de force by the Russian grandmaster Valery Salov from the tournament in Madrid which finished last week.

Salov employs one of Kasparov's favourite opening variations and forces victory with a cascade of brilliant sacrifices. The fireworks start with 20 dxc6 by which White sacrifices his queen and the climax comes with the devastating tactical retreat 23 Nd3. In the final position White polishes off Black's pawns at his leisure with his rook and then captures the black rook on b8.

White: Valery Salov

Black: Manuel Illescas
Madrid 1993

Semi-Slav Defence

- | | |
|-------|-----|
| 1 d4 | d5 |
| 2 c4 | c6 |
| 3 Nc3 | Nf6 |
| 4 Nc3 | a6 |
| 5 Bg5 | h6 |
| 6 e4 | b5 |
| 7 a5 | h6 |
| 8 Bx4 | g5 |
| 9 Ng5 | Ng5 |

10 Bg5

11 exd6

12 g3

13 Bg2

14 0-0

15 d5

16 Ne4

17 a3

18 axb4

19 Qd4

20 dxc6

21 cxb7+

22 Bc3

23 Nd3

24 bxc3

25 Rxb1

26 Rxb5

27 Ra1

28 Bc4

29 Bc5

30 Bc7

31 Ra8

32 Rb8

Nb7

Bb7

Qb6

0-0-0

c5

b4

Qb5

Nb8

cxb4

Nc6

Rxd4

Kc7

a5

bxc3

Rd6

a6

axb5

Rd8

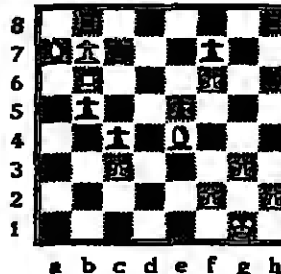
Bb6

Bb6

Bb6

Black resigns

Diagram of final position



Living game

A human chess display is planned as part of the fund-raising campaign to restore the historic St Mary in the Castle building in Hastings. The chess pieces will be played by people in costume.

A team of local schoolchildren will challenge the mayor of Hastings, councillors and celebrity guests. Two invited guests will play the game, and spectators will be informed of moves and progress. The game will last approximately an hour and tickets will cost £1 for adults and 50p for children. The event will take place on Saturday, July 31, at midday. Any enquiries can be directed to Pam Thomas (tel: 0424 445348, fax: 0424 712812).

Championship update
To book your seat for The Times World Chess Championship match between Garry Kasparov and Nigel Short ring First Call on 071 497 9977.

Winning Move, page 44

Tapping waste power may boost efficiency

By OUR TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

TAPPING waste energy from power stations to heat cities could dramatically cut emissions of global warming gases while boosting the competitiveness of industry, it was claimed yesterday.

Combined heat and power (CHP) schemes, popular in Scandinavia and eastern Europe for district heating schemes, should be given more government backing, the Watt committee on energy said yesterday. The committee is an independent organisation, drawn from professional bodies including the Institution of Physics.

David Green, of the Combined Heat and Power Association in London, said using waste heat boosted the efficiencies of power stations up

to 85 per cent. Conventional stations operate at around 35 per cent efficiency.

The select committee on the environment is hearing evidence on the government's energy efficiency policy. Britain has a target to cut global warming gas emissions by 10 million tonnes of carbon by the year 2000. The government expects to cut a third by increasing VAT on energy bills, a third from energy savings through the energy savings trust and the remainder by other means.

A target of doubling CHP schemes has been set by the government. Mr Green said if this target were trebled, half of the carbon target would be met. It might also reduce the need to charge VAT on bills.

Thousands of torture films seized

By RONALD FAUX

A NATIONWIDE network of dealers in films depicting torture, mutilation and cannibalism has been broken up after an undercover operation by trading standards officers.

Sixteen people are helping police inquiries after 19 raids across the country during which 4,000 tapes were seized. Trading standards officials in Liverpool, who led the investigation, yesterday described how the network had been infiltrated and the haul of films confiscated in the biggest operation yet mounted against the trade in illegal videos.

Peter Mawdsley, chief trading standards officer in Liverpool, said: "Words cannot describe the horror. Some of the scenes are absolutely sick." He said that while most of the violence involving humans appeared to be acted, scenes of cruelty against animals were not. The tapes were imported illegally, mainly from European countries where censorship laws are more relaxed.

Stores take a slice off meat prices

SUPERMARKETS have cut the price of meat across the board this week. Sainsbury's is offering fresh beef mince at 99p per lb, a saving of 41p. Tesco's lamb neck fillet is down 80p, as is Waitrose's boneless lamb roast.

Peaches are the best fruit this week, according to the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Information Bureau. Large French and Spanish peaches are 15p-25p each. English cauliflower are also enjoying a good start to the season, with homegrown baby cauliflowers at 40p-50p each.

Fish is again plentiful as the storms of recent weeks give way to calmer weather and more stable prices. One of the best buys is wild salmon, down from 68 to 65 p per lb. Sea trout is about £3.50 a fish.

Advertised best buys:

□ Asda: four Maplecare bacon chops, £2.24; fresh rolled pork shoulder, £1.08 per lb; cooked turkey breast, £2.96 per lb; ten peaches, 99 p each.

□ Sainsbury's: whole lamb leg, £1.88 per lb; whole or half duckling, 89p per lb; fresh turkey steaks, £2.39 per lb; single poussin, 99p; new potatoes, 5p per lb.

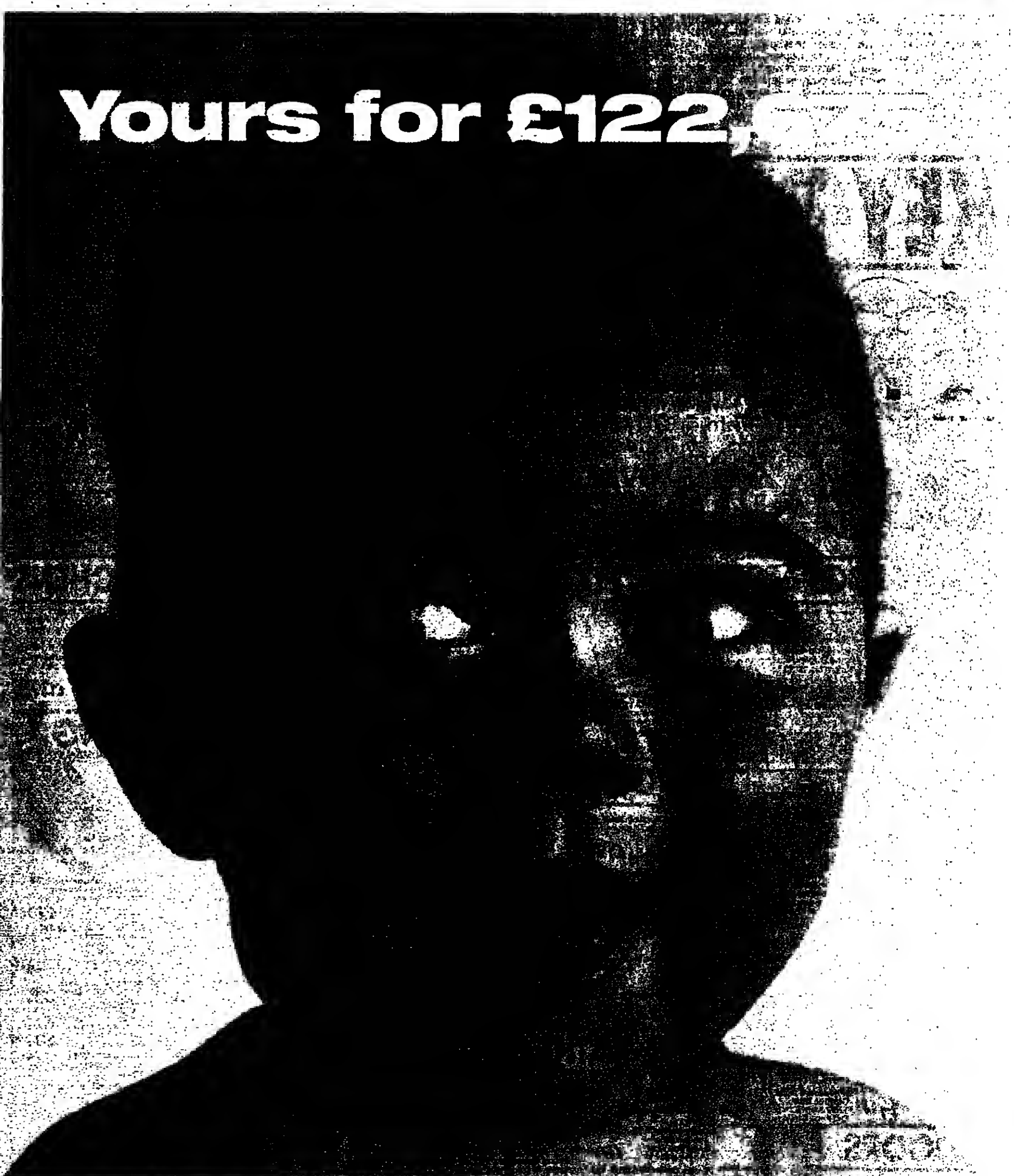
□ Harrods: Belgian Vigneron smoked ham, £5.75 per lb; Italian air-cured beef, £12.50 per lb; fresh almonds, £2.50 per lb.

□ Safeway: smoked cooked ham, 69p per lb; 1lb white seedless grapes, £1.29; 1lb new season broccoli, 65 p; three little gem lettuces, 59p.

□ Sainsbury's: boneless lamb leg, £2.98 per lb; boneless chicken breast, £2.95 per lb; peaches, 14p each; three mixed sweet peppers, 99p.

□ Tesco: new season lamb neck fillet, £3.69 per lb; braising steak, £1.98 per lb; pork boneless shoulder, 99p per lb; large prawns, £1.29 per lb; strawberries, £1.49 per lb.

□ Waitrose: lamb boneless roast, £2.59 per lb; beef mince, £1.19 per lb; new season Canadian lobster, £5.95 each; fresh rainbow trout, £2.49 per lb.



Yours for £122.675

Babies may be priceless, but they certainly aren't cost-free. A recent survey (commissioned by our good selves) has revealed that the average cost of bringing up a child from birth to the age of 21 is £122,675. And, like children, it's getting bigger every day.

It's a wonder anyone survives having children at all. But, as with plenty of other things in life, having some savings to call on makes it an awful lot easier. Especially when those savings are with AXA Equity & Law.

As part of AXA, one of the four largest insurance groups in the world, we naturally have strength and reliability on our side.

But take a look at our splendid performance record, and you'll see why so many people trust us, rather than a bank or building society, to make the most of their savings.

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Need we say more

HEARTCARE

TAKING care of your heart means healthy eating, regular exercise, weight watching, learning to relax and no smoking.

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The best way to take garlic is two Kwai tablets three times a day.

The garlic in Kwai is 100% pure Chinese garlic, probably the strongest you can buy and richest in allicin yield. And you can't smell or taste Kwai tablets, because they are odour-controlled.

Allicin is garlic's main active agent. None was found in recent analyses of top garlic oil brands, yet Kwai gave plenty.

Kwai

Strong Chinese garlic pills to help keep your heart healthy.

BY MICHAEL EVANS AND JILL SHERMAN

The decision in favour of Devonport meets halfway the recommendation by the navy more than a year ago for all submarine and surface ship work to be concentrated at the



price bid. It is quite unreasonable to produce completely new ideas so close to a decision, which if they were relevant could have been presented at any time over the last six months," he said.

In the past ten years, Devonport has refitted seven nuclear submarines and 72 surface ships, compared with Rosyth's five submarines and 79 warships.

Great hole, page 23

BY JAMES LANDALE

However, he warned workers that although the decision was a vote of confidence in the 300-year-old yard, it must fulfill its promises. He added that the 5,000 workforce should send out their thoughts to Rosyth. "Somebody had to win this great nuclear race," he said. "The right people won it."

**BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH
SCOTLAND
CORRESPONDENT**

33A001
Allan Smith, managing director of Babcock Thorn which manages the yard, said he did not accept the government's figures that the Rosyth bid would cost £64 million more than Devonport. "I do believe it is the wrong decision. I believe that of the two upgrade proposals the one made by Rosyth was all-round the better."

KITCHENS

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Red or Sandstone.
111 x 450mm x 34mm.
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The Ho

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Steel/Oak Finish Barbecue
Jewel Set
Old Price \$19.99 **£14.99**

Ceylon Low Back White
Resin Chair
Old Price \$9.99 **£5.99**

Coalbox

Pro-Chef Jet Star Gas Barbecue
Cooking area 16" x 12".
Chrome-plated grill and
warming rack, wooden slatted
side preparation trays, glass

Steel/Oak Finish Barbecue
Tool Set
Old Price \$19.99... **£14.99**

Ceylon Low Back White
Resin Chair
Old Price \$9.99... **£5.99**

Coolbox

Pro-Chef Jet Star Gas Barbecue
Cooking area 16" x 12".
Chrome-plated grill and
warming rack, wooden slatted
side preparation trays, glass

**Readymix Drypack Black
Bitumen Macadam £3.49**
25kg. Old Price \$4.99.

**Readymix Drypack Coarse
or Fine Concrete £3.95**
50kg. Old Price \$5.99.

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Prices approximate. Some of our smaller Supercentres may not stock the full range of products. Please, where to check before you go.

BY EDWARD GORMAN, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

The politicians from all parties showed how concerned

achieved and legislation allowing for its limited use is expected in the next 18 months. There has also been legislation removing restrictions on the sale of condoms and next year

The politicians from all parties showed how concerned

the government plans to legalise divorce by means of a referendum.

House of Commons
Today (9.30): Debate on the health and welfare of children.
Monday: Liberal Democrat debate on the Thorp nuclear reprocessing plant. Plaid Cymru debate on regional development.

Thursday: Debate on law and order.
Friday: Private member's bill: Right to know bill, remaining stages.
House of Lords

Clinton treads precarious path between tax rises and spending cuts

Senate ready to ratify \$500 billion deficit plan

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

THE US Senate was set to give President Clinton another important boost yesterday by approving his \$500 billion, (£338 billion) five-year plan to cut America's huge budget deficit and revive the economy.

Despite grumbling by some liberal Democrats over deep cuts in social programmes, even Robert Dole, the Senate's Republican minority leader, conceded that approval was almost inevitable. Both parties used the preceding debate to underscore the sharp philosophical differences between them.

Republicans claimed the president's plan was spilling over with new taxes that violated his campaign promises and would actually hinder economic recovery. The Democrats voted down a Republican alternative designed to cut the deficit by just as much without raising taxes. They called it a sham that put the interests of the rich before the national good.

Following Senate approval, a joint House and Senate conference committee will begin the formidable task of reconciling the plan with the sharply different version that the House approved by the narrowest of margins last month. The House backed a

\$72 billion across-the-board energy tax which the Senate largely replaced with additional cuts in social programmes. In another preliminary vote, Senate Democrats defeated, by 50 votes to 48, a Republican amendment that sought to abolish a proposed 4.3 cents-a-gallon increase in the tax on petrol.

The committee must somehow reduce extra spending cuts to placate House liberals without raising taxes so much that it alienates Senate conservatives. It will be a highly complex task, exacerbated by the fact that there is little consensus on whether key items in the package actually constitute tax increases or spending cuts. Throughout this week the White House forcefully rebutted Republican charges that the plan contains three dollars in new taxes for every dollar in spending cuts, insisting the true ratio was better than one-to-one.

Mr Clinton's economic plan contains \$248 billion in tax increases, the largest ever. The White House claims that it contains \$267 billion in spending cuts, but the Republicans dispute that.

Only \$107 billion in cuts are actually specified in the bill. An additional \$102 billion are



Private consultation: Hillary Clinton, the American First Lady, in discussion with Senator Jay Rockefeller at a Washington meeting of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies called to discuss health care reforms

to be identified later this year, and will include \$44 billion in unspecified cuts that were ordered in 1990. Another \$38 billion in "cuts" is to be achieved through smaller interest payments over the next five years because of slower growth in the national debt.

The reconciliation process is expected to last through July. Hillary Clinton told congressmen this week that the administration would not introduce

her health care reform plan until the process was completed.

With Congress in recess during August, that effectively delays until September a plan Mr Clinton once promised within his first 100 days, and that will make congressional approval much harder to achieve. The plan will be fought by powerful vested interests and will require big new tax increases. Congress

will have to vote on it in 1994, the year all representatives and a third of the Senate face re-election.

On Wednesday night Congress's new appetite for budget-cutting came within a whisker of grounding the proposed Freedom space station, one of America's top two science projects.

By 216 votes to 215 the House defeated an amendment to kill the permanently

staffed space laboratory project, even though Mr Clinton had last week approved a smaller, cheaper version than that originally planned.

America's other top science project, the \$8 billion atom-smashing supercollider being built in Texas, also faced possible defeat in the House yesterday. The House has voted before to kill the programme, but the Senate restored it.

Ukraine seizes Gaddafi's cargo of chemicals

■ The Russians insist on earning hard currency through Third World arms sales. The United States hopes to deflect them by offering a space co-operation deal

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

BRITISH and American intelligence agencies have thwarted the export from Russia to Libya of a huge cargo of chemicals used in making rocket fuel.

The agencies realised that 80 tonnes of ammonium perchlorate, destined for Colonel Muammar Gaddafi's ballistic missile programme, were being sent from Russia through Ukraine. Government officials in Kiev were persuaded to seize the shipment.

Similarly, Britain and America convinced Singapore to confiscate a shipment of steel canisters from Malaysia, which were apparently intended for making nerve gas at Libya's chemical weapons factory, according to Washington officials. Trading with Libya is banned by the United Nations because Colonel Gaddafi refuses to hand over two men suspected of bombing Pan Am flight 103 over Lockerbie.

The interceptions were triumphs for an intensified British and American campaign to halt the export of materials used in weapons of mass destruction from industrial to developing countries. Russia's determination to sell its arms expertise in the Third World is, however,

causing serious strains between Moscow and Washington. Mike McCurry, the US State Department spokesman, hailed the Ukrainian seizure as a "responsible approach" to ending weapons proliferation. There are American concerns about Russian sales to India, China and Iran of booster rockets, surface-to-air missiles, jet fighters and submarines.

The Russians say their arms exports have dropped to a fraction of the \$50 billion (£34 billion) annual sales during the Cold War and they are desperate for hard currency. Moscow's financial problems have been made all the more acute by the revelation that President Clinton's suggested \$4 billion privatisation aid from the West may be whittled down to \$1 billion when the Group of Seven leading industrialised nations meet in Tokyo in two weeks' time.

America has objected to Moscow's \$400 million contract to sell rocket engines to India, claiming they could be used for missiles. The Clinton administration will try to win over the Russians by offering to co-operate on space projects.

Leading article, page 17

Presley fans win reopening of files on rock singer's death

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

AUTHORITIES in Tennessee, under pressure from local officials, historians, and fans of the late Elvis Presley, have agreed to appoint an independent pathologist to re-examine the post mortem reports on the singer to determine whether he died of heart disease or a drug overdose.

After Presley's death on August 16, 1977, in Memphis, Tennessee, Dr Jerry Francisco, the local medical examiner for Shelby County, concluded that he had died of heart disease. But another pathologist who took part in the post mortem has said that Presley died from a lethal mixture of prescription drugs. A 1991 book argued that autopsy specimens sent to private lab-



Presley: role of drugs to be examined again

oratories also indicated death from a reaction to drugs. Last month the Shelby County Commission filed a lawsuit against the state demanding access to the Presley

files and urging that the case be reopened. Hitherto the courts have refused to release the post mortem records, but Charles Burson, Tennessee attorney-general, has advised the state registrar of vital records to co-operate.

A spokeswoman for the department of health said the investigation would be limited to records available at the time Presley's death certificate was completed.

Dr Francisco, a county medical examiner for 30 years, maintains that Presley suffered from coronary disease and high blood pressure, but he says the cause of those ailments has not been proved. While he admits drug traces were found in Presley's body, Dr Francisco insists these were "not enough to be the cause of death".

What does it take to be known as "The World's Best Aerobic Exerciser"?

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A smooth, non-jarring exerciser. NordicSport is built with an exclusive flywheel and one-way clutch mechanism to simulate the fluid motion of cross-country skiing, which fitness experts call the world's best aerobic exercise.

A calorie-burning exerciser. Our machine burns up to 1,100 calories per hour, which is far more than stairsteppers and exercise bikes.

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Satisfied customers. Recent surveys show that 4 out of 5 NordicSport owners who own other exercise equipment still prefer their NordicSport overall. Plus, every NordicSport is backed by a two-year warranty and free telephone customer support.

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مكتبة الامم

Plot arrests revive doubts over fundamentalist shaikh



Shaikh Omar denies any links to Islamic terrorism

AMERICA is experiencing a nasty case of déjà vu today, together with the grim realisation that last February's bombing of the World Trade Centre was not the isolated incident many had hoped.

The arrest in New York yesterday of eight people (described by the FBI as "fundamentalist Muslims") suspected of planning to bomb the United Nations headquarters in New York and at least one commuter tunnel, bears many of the hallmarks of February's attack, not least because Shaikh Omar Abdel-Rahman, the cleric who was the spiritual guide to several of the suspects in the World Trade Centre bombing, has also been linked with the suspects arrested yesterday.

The suspects arrested yesterday and those held after the World Trade Centre attack may be linked through Shaikh Omar Abdel-Rahman, the Egyptian cleric, Ben Macintyre writes

The arrested men were also believed to have ties to the suspects in the World Trade Centre bombing. The shaikh is the spiritual leader of al Gamaa al-Islamiya, a fundamentalist group which is campaigning for the creation of an Islamic state in Egypt. He has consistently denied any direct links with terrorism, and insists he does not know the suspects in the World Trade Centre bombing, whose trial begins in September.

There has never been any concrete evidence to connect Shaikh Omar with the February bombing, which he maintains "could not have been done by a true Muslim" since "the Holy Koran commands the faithful not to commit aggression". But yesterday one of the alleged targets of the latest plot, Alfonso D'Amato, a Republican senator from New York, left no doubt that he thinks the shaikh is, at least by association, behind the

new and still more ambitious plot uncovered yesterday.

"I think we should have arrested Rahman," he said. "He's been found by a court to come into this country illegally and yet he's still out there bouncing around. I have been outspoken on this... it was this outspokenness which earned me the enmity of the shaikh's followers."

While Shaikh Omar has never been convicted of violence himself, the Egyptian government insists his fiery sermons, circulated on cassette tapes in Egypt, inspire his followers to carry out attacks on foreigners and unbelievers. In 1981 he was arrested and imprisoned in Egypt, accused of issuing a fatwa, or death sentence, for the assassi-

nation of President Sadat. He was later acquitted, but Aboud al-Zamur, the army colonel who masterminded the murder of Sadat, said that Shaikh Omar had inspired and motivated him "to carry out the killing."

The shaikh left Egypt in 1990 after a second acquittal on charges of fomenting a riot in the oasis town of Fayooum, and went to Sudan, where the American embassy granted him a visa to the US — to the embarrassment of the immigration authorities here, who accused him of falsifying his visa application and failing to state that he is a polygamist.

Even before the World Trade Centre bombing, the mosque in Jersey City where the shaikh

preaches was the focus of an undercover investigation, and American authorities are still said to be investigating whether the shaikh sanctioned three murders on US territory, including that of Rabbi Meir Kahane in 1991.

The shaikh's loathing of President Mubarak is well documented. In a recent BBC interview, he compared the Egyptian president to Nicolae Ceausescu and noted darkly that "the people have to look into the fate of Egypt's Ceausescu". He insists that the efforts to link him with fundamentalist terrorism are the result of anti-Islamic hysteria whipped up by the American media.

Suspects' arrest, page 1

Muslim leaders poised to remove Bosnia president

By EVE-ANN PRENTICE
DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

WITH peace talks in Geneva galloping out of his control, Alija Izetbegovic, the Muslim president of Bosnia-Herzegovina, could soon be removed from office, Mile Akmadzic, his prime minister, said yesterday.

Dr Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, said he and Mase Boban, the Croat Bosnian leader, had agreed on the creation of a confederation of three ethnic mini-states and called on the country's Muslims to go to the negotiating table "for the sake of peace and stability in the region". He added: "We invite them to come as soon as possible. The good news is that Serbs and Croats have definitely agreed it will be a confederation."

However, disaster within the Muslim-led presidency became increasingly apparent. Mr Akmadzic, who is attending the negotiations while Mr Izetbegovic boycotts them, said the collective presidency would have to decide very soon whether to give "full legality" to the Bosnian president or sack him.

The seven members of the presidency attending the Geneva talks appeared to agree to discuss the division of Bosnia along ethnic lines. They will hold talks today with colleagues in Sarajevo, the Bosnian capital, and meet the foreign ministers of Britain, Denmark and Belgium in Brussels tomorrow.

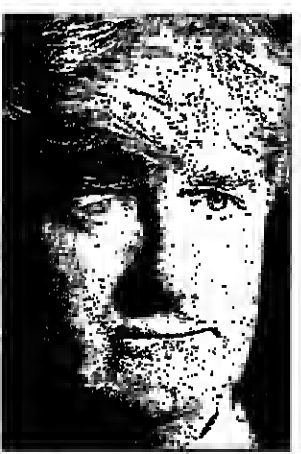
"We are open to all new ideas," said Fikret Abdic, a Muslim seen as the main challenger to Mr Izetbegovic. "We will take them back and consult our people, not only Mr Izetbegovic," he said.

Mr Abdic, leader of the Muslims in the northwest enclave of Bijac, said he had turned down a chance on

The seven members of the Bosnian presidency in Geneva feel they are being overtaken by events as Alija Izetbegovic continues his boycott of the peace talks

Tuesday to become acting head of the ten-member body. Lord Owen, the European Community negotiator who was also in Geneva, showed increasing frustration with Mr Izetbegovic yesterday, when he pressed the president to take part in the peace talks. He said Bosnia could be "literally dismembered and destroyed" if the 15-month conflict continued for much longer. Humanitarian aid workers and the United Nations peacekeepers were running dramatic risks "and the political leaders had better realise this," he said, "because otherwise people will just walk out, walk away. The international community will be forced just to pack up, and that would be tragic."

Franjo Boras, a Croat who is nominally heading the presidency team, accused Mr Izetbegovic of trying to concentrate too much power in his



Karadzic: agreement on new confederation

own hands. "We have the power to make decisions," he said, adding: "Alija Izetbegovic has no more authority or powers than any other member of the [ten-man] presidency."

Mr Izetbegovic owes his title of president to the fact that he holds the position of rotating chairman of the presidency, formed in December 1990 after parliamentary elections in the former Yugoslav republic. At the end of his mandate last December, Mr Izetbegovic invoked a special constitutional clause to continue as wartime president.

During yesterday's talks in Geneva, Dr Karadzic and Mr Boban thrashed out details of the planned division of the republic. Dr Karadzic said the next task would be to finalise internal boundaries.

Sweden has asked the UN to explain why it was not told of a decision to replace Lars-Eric Wahlgren, a Swedish general, as head of UN troops in former Yugoslavia. A defence ministry spokesman in Stockholm said: "We received news that Wahlgren would be replaced via French television. We were not told anything before this."

The world conference on human rights, in Vienna, turned its attention to Bosnia yesterday and adopted a declaration denouncing atrocities there and calling for the lifting of the arms embargo on the country's Muslims. The declaration, proposed by the 51-nation Organisation of the Islamic Conference, was passed by 88 votes to one — Russia — with 54 abstentions.



Battle scarred: a Bosnian Muslim clears some debris from her flat in Zenica, where the ceasefire was breached again on Wednesday night

Refugee ordeal belies Serb offers of peace

FROM TOM RHODES
IN TURBIE

SERB gunmen fired over the heads of more than 700 Muslim refugees yesterday as they were forced to carry their belongings three miles across the front line to a waiting convoy of British United Nations lorries.

The refugees' tales of horror were a timely reminder that, while the Bosnian Serbs are offering to negotiate with the Bosnian presidency in Geneva, they have little intention of doing so on the ground. All the refugees passing through the frontline town of Turbie had been evicted from their homes in villages round Doboj, where they said they had been held as "Serbian slaves" for the last 15 months. The Serbs had given them 24 hours' notice to leave, as there could be no guarantee of safety if they stayed.

Kaska Memic, 47, clearly terrified when she reached the relative safety of the British convoy was in tears. "You would not believe what they have done to us. We have spent 15 months in slavery. They would come at night and beat people and rape some of the women. They would drag others off for interrogation — these were our neighbours."

Ibro Spahic, who arrived with his young son, Senad, on his shoulders, said it would have been better to be dead rather than endure the ordeals of such captivity and the final horror of the crossing. Nobody appeared willing to live with Serb neighbours ever again. Yesterday's evictions were presumably an action by Bosnian Serbs to extend the corridor around Doboj to make a better link with Krajina across northern Bosnia.

As they arrived in their twos and threes, the refugees were helped on

board the waiting lorries by members of the Yorkshire Regiment who had waited more than four hours for them. The British soldiers had all heard the rattling gunfire to the north as the men, women and children came across the line, but were powerless to take any action for fear of upsetting future refugee negotiations with the Bosnian Serbs.

It was yet another sign of the impotence of the UN mandate in central Bosnia. "We would all like to go and sort that out," one corporal said, "but the decisions on this are taken over our heads."

Although the refugees were destined for Zenica, it seemed likely that many would remain in Travnik last night. The population of the old Ottoman capital has already been swelled by 15,000 as a result of other migrants from the Banja Luka area, large numbers of whom have joined

what is described as the refugee army, an irregular band prepared to fight both Serb and Croat.

Food is running short at the town's school, which has become the refugee centre. As the building prepared itself for the newcomers yesterday, there were signs that earlier arrivals were being driven to extremes to find money to supplement the meagre rations provided.

The town was hit by two shells yesterday as the dwindling Croat population celebrated St John the Baptist day. In the church of St John, Pavlo Nikolic, the priest, blamed no side in the fighting. "This is nothing but a vale of tears. Instead of gathering together to celebrate a new life today, we can only gather here to hope for a new life," he said. The words of his sermon would not have been lost on the refugees from Doboj, whose future is far from certain.

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Yeltsin warns Estonia

Moscow: President Yeltsin made a strong denunciation of Estonia's citizenship policy yesterday when he warned Tallinn that Russia would intervene if Russian-speakers in the Baltic republic rebelled against what he called apartheid. The toughest foreign policy statement of Yeltsin's presidency fell little short of an open threat of armed Russian intervention.

Estonia has angered Moscow by refusing to allow non-Estonian-speakers the vote, which has disenfranchised the majority of the 600,000 Russian-speakers. (Reuters)

Ciampi survives

Rome: The Italian government of Carlo Azeglio Ciampi won a series of confidence votes on a bill to free state television from party political control. Had the government lost, it would automatically have been forced to resign. (Reuters)

Vatican budget

Vatican City: The Vatican attributed a low deficit of £2.3 million to new accounting methods. Contributions from dioceses, religious orders and private foundations were included as income for the first time. Revenue was £121.3 million. (Reuters)

Drugs supplied

Bern: The Swiss government has approved an experiment to distribute hard drugs free of charge to 700 addicts. The experiment will be used to decide whether the drugs should be legalised. (AP)

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صباح الخير

Pressure mounts on Lagos to honour election results

BY EYE-ANN PRENTICE
DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT
AND MARTIN FLETCHER
IN WASHINGTON

BRITAIN and America yesterday increased pressure on Nigeria's military government in protest at the annulment of the June 12 presidential elections.

Whitehall imposed sanctions, including a ban on military training, while America expelled Nigeria's military attaché in Washington, recalled diplomats from Lagos and suspended roughly \$1 million (\$675,000) in military and other technical assistance.

The State Department said it was reassessing US relations with Nigeria and might suspend America's entire \$22.8 million aid programme to the country. That aid focuses on AIDS prevention and public health, and the administration's willingness to consider its suspension indicated "the seriousness with which we regard the step by the military in Nigeria", said a spokesman in Washington. He would not rule out UN sanctions.

Edward Brynn, Assistant Secretary of State, said: "Not only are we intensely disappointed with the train of events in Nigeria itself, but we are concerned about the larger, rippling effect in a number of countries which have undertaken some heroic measures to get democratic institutions established."

An attempt by the regime of General Ibrahim Babangida to soften international outrage by announcing a new plan for moving the country to democracy met little enthusiasm in Whitehall. The general said through an official that he was thinking about turning power over to another military ruler during what would be a new transition to civilian rule. The new ruler would share power with a civilian parliament elected last year, and the scheme would open up the political process to all political parties, the official said.

■ Washington, concerned about the knock-on effect of Nigeria's poll annulment on Africa's democracies, seems determined to force General Babangida's hand

Under the previous transition programme, abandoned by General Babangida on Wednesday, the only political parties allowed to compete — the Social Democratic Party which was winning the election and the National Republican Convention — were created by the general.

Baroness Chalker, overseas development minister, yesterday summoned Alhaji Abubakar Alhaji, Nigeria's high commissioner, to the Foreign Office to express Britain's anger at the annulment.

Britain stopped short of freezing all new aid yesterday. Instead, the Foreign Office urged Nigeria to reverse its decision and decided to review

Britain "in places like Sandhurst", a government spokesman said. They will all be allowed to finish their courses. Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, said on BBC radio: "This is the beginning. I hope we don't have to go further."

John Major sent a message to General Babangida expressing his concern. Britain is also consulting America and European Community countries about possible further measures.

America is warning American travellers to avoid Nigeria. Chief Emeka Anyaoku, Commonwealth secretary-general and himself a Nigerian, called the annulment "a severe setback".

In Lagos, the Campaign for Democracy, an influential coalition of 42 human rights organisations, urged all Nigerians to go on strike or take to the streets to force General Babangida to honour the election results. The military has threatened to impose a state of emergency if unrest breaks out.

The annulment is the fourth time in three years that General Babangida has thrown out a timetable for moving the nation to democracy. The two candidates in the election, business tycoons Mashood Abiola of the Social Democrats and Bashir Othman Tafa, are close friends of the general.

Although the poll was widely hailed as free and fair, the Abuja high court had ruled that it was illegal because of a pending lawsuit filed by supporters of General Babangida who claimed that the balloting was rigged. Other federal courts have challenged that ruling. The Nigerian leader said he was scrapping the elections because of chaos in the courts.



Babangida: fourth time he has scrapped elections

all new aid to Nigeria on a case-by-case basis. Aid this year will be £23 million.

British military advisers will be withdrawn from Nigeria and there will be no new military training courses for members of the Nigerian armed forces in Britain. Visas for Nigerian military personnel will also be suspended.

Four Nigerian officers are currently being trained in



Upwardly mobile: Israeli soldiers watching a mock dogfight between jets at an airshow in the south of the country yesterday as it was announced that Israel Aircraft Industries is planning to shed almost 10 per cent of its work force by the end of the year. The decision means 1,500 jobs will be cut for the second year running. Tel Aviv sealed its military co-operation with

China when a colonel took up his post as military attaché at the Chinese embassy in the city. The foreign ministry said an Israeli attaché would soon be sent to Peking. (AFP)

Hijacker holds up jet with toy gun

Taipei: A Chinese man armed with a toy gun and a knife hijacked a Chinese airliner carrying 72 people to Taiwan yesterday.

The hijacker surrendered peacefully at Taipei International Airport, shouting slogans of Taiwan's Nationalist government, officials said. The Xiamen Airlines Boeing 737-200, carrying 63 passengers and a crew of nine, was on a domestic flight from Changzhou to Xiamen in southeast China. The hijacker was identified as Zhang Wenling, 29. "I did this because I hate the human rights situation in China," he told reporters. (AFP)

Peng's illness

Hong Kong: Li Peng, the Chinese prime minister, admitted for the first time that he was suffering from a "minor" heart condition, telling Paul Keating, the visiting Australian prime minister, that doctors wanted him to rest longer. (AFP)

Angola airlift

Lisbon: The international Red Cross flew 115 Portuguese and five Brazilians to safety from the central Angolan city of Huambo, which is held by the rebel Unita movement, and sent a second plane to rescue more foreigners. (Reuters)

Child-sex ban

Canberra: Australian federal and state governments have agreed to ban the increasing number of child-sex tours to Asia, making it illegal for Australians to have sex with children overseas or to organise such tours. (Reuters)

Radio demand

Peking: China has demanded that President Clinton withdraw his decision to set up an Asian Democracy Radio, saying it is unwanted interference and a bid to "create confusion" in Asia. (AFP)

Mandela to visit king of the Zulus

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

NELSON Mandela, president of the African National Congress, is expected soon to make a symbolic visit to Ulundi, capital of the KwaZulu homeland, where he will visit King Zwelithini and go to the headquarters of Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party. In a return gesture, Dr Buthelezi is likely to be shown round the ANC's Johannesburg offices.

The proposed visits are one of the positive results of the nine hours of talks between Mr Mandela and Chief Buthelezi on Wednesday, according

to Bishop Stanley Mogoba of the Methodist church who, with Archbishop Desmond Tutu, chaired the talks.

Less positive was Mr Mandela's failure to persuade the Zulu leader to support next April 27 as the date for South Africa's first multiracial election. This means that today's meeting of the constitutional negotiating forum, which was to have ratified the date, has been postponed for a second time. It is now scheduled for next Friday.

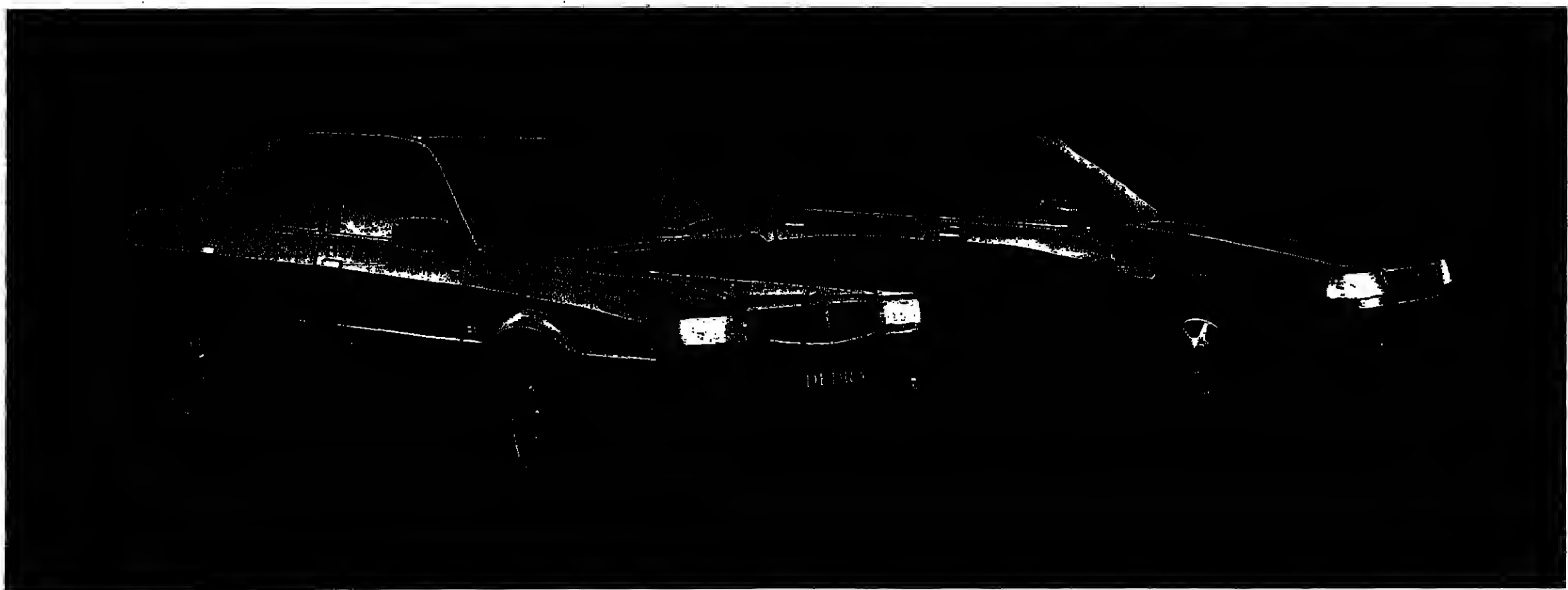
Although the April 27 date is supported by 17 of the 24

parties involved in the negotiations, it is opposed by the Concerned South Africans Group, which includes Inkatha, the KwaZulu government, other homeland representatives and the white right-wing. The group insists that constitutional proposals, particularly concerning regional powers, should be decided first.

The main result of the meeting between Mr Mandela and Chief Buthelezi was, however, a new-found respect for each other. As well as exchanging visits, they undertook to try to curb the violence that has cost the lives of thousands of their followers in the past eight years.

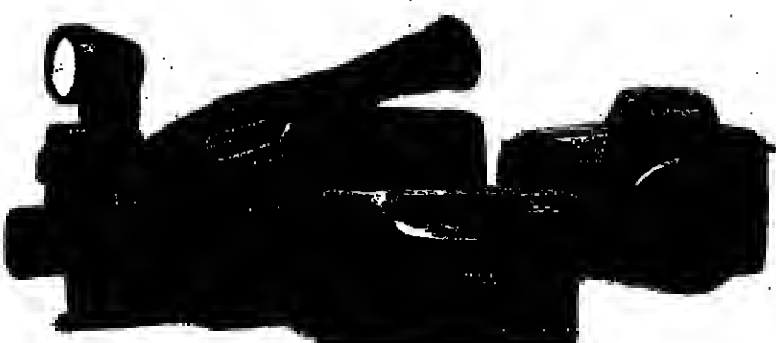
Four killed: Two white men and a woman and a black man were shot dead when black gunmen fired on motorists and pedestrians in the morning rush-hour yesterday in the Alrode industrial area near Johannesburg. At least two other people were hurt. Witnesses said the three gunmen walked to the side of the road, pulled AK47 rifles from under their trenchcoats and opened fire.

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Rebecca's heroine was the ultimate female wimp. Will the sequel see her consciousness raised?

Still the mouse of Manderley?



LIBBY PURVES

Last night I dreamt I went to Manderley, yet again. And how the old place had changed since 1938! The fire of that year was a godsend really. The outer walls were largely undamaged; but the accommodation was too badly scorched for the house to meet the fate of so many others. Manderley was never commandeered for the housing of convalescent soldiery or snotty evacuees; it did not suffer the indignity of becoming a school. It was sold after the war to a jovial grocery millionaire who had avoided military service because of his flat feet, preferring to remain at home cornering the market in snook.

Decorators, Mrs "Danny" Danvers, who proved to have access (through the respected art-dealer "Jack" Favell) to an inexhaustible supply of antique draperies, pictures and furniture which suited the house uncannily well. After Sir Ron, however, no male member of the family ever earned again. The family fortune shrank in the 1960s when the current heir was leader of The Screaming Manders rock group and gave his famous parties; it declined further in the following decades through pauperism suits and speeding fines. The family's catastrophic losses at Lloyd's in the late 1980s left the way clear for Manderley to be sold to its present owners, the World Unity Church of the Sublime and Transcendental Guru Con Trick. As a retreat 'n' levitation centre it

runs, for the first time in 200 years, at a profit. News of its previous owners is sketchy. It is believed that Maximilian de Winter divorced his second wife in 1950 to marry a shy 18-year-old governess, who died in a freak yachting accident ten years later, leaving him free to startle society with his notorious St Tropez hippy wedding, in beads and katan, to a 16-year-old Thai waitress without a word of English. Sorry. All this is brought on by the news that the novelist Susan Hill has finished her lucrative task of writing the sequel to Daphne du Maurier's *Rebecca*. In conditions of masonic secrecy it is currently being translated into 19 languages for simultaneous publication throughout the known universe. We are only allowed to know that it

is called *Mrs de Winter*, and that Ms Hill is not a bit ashamed of the exercise. Although she would not, she says, have done anything really naïf, like writing a sequel to *Gone with the Wind*. Someone already has, anyway: it came out last year, was called *Scarlett*, and followed our heroine's continuing attempts to make

Rhett Butler give a damn. It was so terrible that I have forgotten almost everything about it, except for one intriguingly visible problem: which, I suspect, Ms Hill shared. The trouble is that women novelists of the 1990s were brought up in a climate of compulsory sisterhood, and now find it impossible to depict their own sex with the fearful ruthlessness of yesterday. Margaret Mitchell's *Scarlett O'Hara* is a pot of poison: manipulative, devious, selfish, unmaternal and utterly credible. Moreover, like those evil '40s heroines played by Bette Davis, she is shown as entirely responsible for her wickedness: it was not society that did this to Scarlett, not sexual harassment or political inequality. She is just a bitch.

But the sequel's author couldn't face that. By the end of *Scarlett* you realise you have been reading yet another account of a fashionable female "survivor", a commendably "frisky" free spirit in the modern fictional mould. The old Scarlett was no sister; the new one is. So what will Susan Hill make of Daphne du Maurier's mousy heroine? The second Mrs de Winter is the opposite of Scarlett, but just as boldly and outrageously drawn: she is the ultimate female wimp, which is why she has fascinated generations of shy schoolgirls. This woman is 21 years old going on twelve-and-a-half, and capable of little more than a shy adoring smile. When Maxim abruptly says "I'm asking you to marry me, you little fool" and goes on eating his breakfast, she does not clock him one for

being so rude. When Mrs Danvers gibbers abuse from a skull-like face in the master bedroom, she does not forcefully tell her husband to sack this mad old fossil. She is Patient Griselda, and I defy any modern woman novelist to keep that up for more than four pages without coming out in a severe allergic rash. I predict that Ms Hill's Mrs de Winter will get her consciousness raised, grow up, tell Maxim to stop parading her and probably start her own business empire. She may meet Mrs Danvers again when the latter comes out of therapy, and realise the pressures of sexual identity and patriarchal staff attitudes which caused the housekeeper to behave badly in the first place. Perhaps the women recognise their sexuality, and shack up together to have AIDS babies and start a neighbourhood playgroup in Hackney. Perhaps Mrs Danvers becomes Minister for Women's Affairs. I fear for the old tremulous magic, I really do.

Mad scientists on the loose

Jurassic Park has stirred up an anti-science fervour in America, but the boffins are biting back, reports Ben Macintyre

Jurassic Park. Stephen Spielberg's film of dinosaurs revisited, is a tale of many monsters: there is the Velociraptor, the one with the beady eye and the Hapsburg chin; there is the charming Dilophosaurus, which gobs greenish poison on its victims before devouring them and there is, of course, the all-consuming Tyrannosaurus Rex.

But the most frightening monsters of all in this film are the scientists, who create the dinosaurs and then can only watch in rather ill-acted horror when their brainchildren go on to devour everything in sight. Take a little prehistoric DNA, add an irresponsible millionaire (Richard Attenborough) and a little pop-science, and you have a familiar parable of science getting out of hand, and mayhem will surely follow.

Taken from Michael Crichton's novel, the film of *Jurassic Park* has sold millions of T-shirts and frightened millions more children, but has also caused profound offence to many scientists who feel that, once again, the people in the white coats and spectacles have been made scapegoats for the world's evils.

In a recent article in *The New York Times* under the headline "Evil Science Runs Amok - Again!", Professor Carol Muske Dukes, of the University of Southern California, attacked "the predictable but no less disturbing anti-science sentiment that runs through the novel and the film."

"How can we expect to attract young students to science", she wrote, when film-makers persist in painting its practitioners as "test-tube nerds, corporate shills or genocidal killers".

That article has since evolved into a full-scale battle in the letters pages of newspapers, on television and in the scientific press, with Spielberg's supporters insisting that the film might actually encourage young people to go to museums while his detractors complain that science has again been undermined and undervalued.

This week, the debate was reflected in Congress, when opponents of the NASA space station came within one vote of scuttling the

project. In the end, Congress authorised the spending of a further \$12 billion over the next seven years, but not before opponents had compared the project to a "flying turkey" and supporters had likened it to Columbus's ships and the Wright brothers' plane.

The atom-smashing super-collider in Texas, with its price tag of \$11 billion, has also focused the debate about the expense and direction of scientific research, with Edward Teller, a professor of physics at MIT in Cambridge, Massachusetts, accusing critics of "shocking ignorance and a dangerous anti-science bias".

While the scientists and their supporters might be guilty of taking a children's horror film a tad too seriously, they clearly have a point. From *Frankenstein* and *Dr Jekyll* through *Dr Strangelove* to the *Alien* series of movies, film-makers have consistently given scientists a bum rap.

When not intent on blowing up the world (*Strangelove*), populating it with homicidal robots (*Terminator*) or getting together with Big Money to build oil refineries in its most beautiful corners (*Local Hero*), scientists are portrayed as

unstable, anti-social Professor Branestawms avidly pursuing their theories but ignorant or careless of the consequences. Even *Star Trek* or *Doc Brown* from *Back to the Future* are hardly the sort of people you would want as babysitters.

While Stephen Hawking's *A Brief History of Time* may have become the de rigueur coffee table accoutrement in America, science is deeply unfashionable in the United States these days.

The number of students opting for science is dropping fast - partly a reflection of the fact that the American science industry is not what it was, but also because of the negative stereotypes. Film heroes are usually doctors, lawyers, archaeologists or even journalists; seldom are they chemists.

Spielberg relies on scientists for the special effects that are the key to his success, but his attitude to science is one of almost Luddite antipathy. Professor Dukes quotes the world's most successful film-maker as saying that science is "intrusive" and "dangerous".

"Every gain in science involves an equal and opposite reaction - a loss," says Spielberg, a remark

which, in its very vagueness, reflects a popular fear.

The myth of the mad scientist long predates *Jurassic Park* or *Frankenstein*, and is founded, inevitably, on ignorance. The line between sorcery and science has traditionally been blurred in literature, and the scientist has often been seen as part alchemist, part magician. Because most people have a sketchy notion of what science can do, most of us are prepared to believe that it can, and if left unchecked, will do just about anything. Because we trust the "pure" conclusions of science so implicitly, but often know so little about how they are arrived at, science scares us profoundly, leaving us wide open to the skilful exploitation of Spielberg and his like.

Despite the assurances of experts that the "science" expounded in *Jurassic Park* is only tenuously based on reality, the film has had an effect on America in some ways reminiscent of Orson Welles's 1938 radio broadcast of *War of the Worlds*. Even the relentlessly serious-minded *New York Times* felt moved to reassure its readers in an editorial that "scientists will not have the capability any time soon of resurrecting the dinosaurs".

Jurassic Park proves that we are almost as prone to myth and superstition about science now as we were a century, or five centuries ago. Then, as now, our response is much the same: Find the witches, and duck them.



Fantasy film monster: Peter Sellers gave scientists a bad name as the mad Dr Strangelove

Too much devilry in mind

Satanists claim that loonies are jumping on the band wagon and giving them a bad name



Dealings with Beelzebub: from an anti-Puritan pamphlet of 1642

"I WAS three when it happened. They took me down to the railway tracks where they had murdered a tramp and used parts of his body to initiate me. Then I was called the bride of Satan... I was forced to cut the child I had borne, to eat part of its arm and then to throw it into the fire."

These stories sound like dialogue from a video nasty, but according to 14 members of the Morning Star Testimony Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma, they are typical childhood experiences. All claim to have been the victims of satanic abuse so horrible that they blot out all memories of it until they joined the church.

Across the United States more and more testimonies are emerging alleging that orgies, human sacrifices, genital mutilation and cannibalism are becoming as common a feature of suburban life as drive-in movies and summer barbecues. In this country, many policemen, psychiatrists and child counsellors claim that devil worship is growing fast.

Dr Jim Phillips, a Birmingham psychiatrist, treats 15 alleged victims of satanic abuse. In a documentary, *In Satan's Name*, to be shown on ITV next week, he claims that 10 per cent of the population of Great Britain or five million people are practising satanism. "Most of our patients have murdered more than once," he says. "Virtually all my female patients have seen their babies sacrificed."

Despite extensive police investigations, none of these allegations has ever been proven. In America, Special Agent Ken Lanning of the FBI Academy in Virginia, who has analysed hundreds of cases, has concluded that the issue is a mixture of fantasy and hype. "I'm not aware of one single documented case in the United States or in other countries."

Nonetheless, over the past three years, 119 children, notably in Rochdale and the Orkneys, have been removed from their homes in the UK after claims of satanic abuse. Antony Thomas, the director of the documentary, says he has met scores of people claiming satanic abuse, but not one had any recollection of it until they went into therapy.

Some therapists claim that their patients have multiple personality disorder (MPD), a diagnosis that became fashionable in the 1980s, based on the premise that abuse victims can develop thousands of separate personalities. Only through psychotherapy can their "abused" personality emerge.

Many doctors deny MPD exists. So why do some of their colleagues continue to make this controversial diagnosis? Because, says Mr Thomas, it can transform a patient's shaky ego. He adds: "These people have terrible personal difficulties. Then they go to a therapist and are told, 'It's not your fault. Something devastating has happened to you as a child.'"

When patients are told they have undergone a real-life version of *The Exorcist* they are given a sudden feeling of self-worth. In Mr Thomas's film, alleged victims seem to compete for the most horrific history. "In America, they had enormous status," Mr Thomas says. "What's more, repressed people can give vent to incredible sexual fantasies."

MEANWHILE, "real" satanists are angry about their public image as baby killers and devil worshippers. According to Magdalene Graham, who edits *Dark Lily*, a British satanist magazine, satanists worship nothing, including Satan. "We believe in neither God nor the Devil. We are atheists, but unlike atheists we do not believe we are alone. We think that through exploring our inner soul we can connect with the outer universe."

Exploring the inner soul, she says, means intellectual conversation and med-

itation. "I have read tarot cards at the local charity fete, but that's all. I am keen on animal rights. I don't go in for theatricals. Some satanists celebrate the black mass, but that is to stir up their own psyche, not to please a God."

Christopher Bray, who runs the Sorcerer's Apprentice, an occult bookshop in Leeds, says Satanism is a form of spiritual hedonism. "Satanists believe animalistic urges drive us. They feel there is no life after death and want to indulge as much as they are able."

The Church of Satan began in the US in the early 1970s as one of the countless offshoots of hippiedom. Its purpose, then, according to Mr Bray, was to give a pseudo-intellectual framework to undisciplined promiscuity. These days, however, satanists indulge in little more than cerebral discussions and occasional hocus-pocus. Mr Bray, who calls himself a paganist, says: "Satanists rip up bibles and they light black candles to put two fingers up at Christian society, which they believe is oppressing them. They try out ancient invocations which they believe will bring them knowledge about the hidden depths of the mind. Some might occasionally catch a neighbour's cat to see whether sacrifice works, but by and large, there is no place for that kind of thing."

RESEARCH suggests that no more than 200 people in Britain call themselves satanists. "There is no satanic network; there are too few of them, divided into factions," Mr Bray says. "They are simply not capable of a huge conspiracy."

Mr Thomas says that satanists love people to think they are more powerful than they are and help to feed the myth that they are infiltrating society. What worries him is that satanist hysteria is giving people ideas. "Satanic abuse exists inasmuch as paedophiles read about it in the papers, then put on black robes to frighten children."

In the US several murders have been committed in the name of Satan, usually by young people alienated from their strongly Christian families. "They are drop-outs, who kill first, then talk about the Devil afterwards," Mr Thomas says. "Satanism to them is a bit of mumbo-jumbo at an altar, but more importantly, a good excuse to vent frustration."

JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH
In *Satan's Name* will be shown on ITV on Tuesday at 10.40pm.



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Roger Taylor on why he has been lost to British tennis — and how not to go on producing losers

'You can't spend your life waiting for a call from the LTA. I had to work'

THE VALERIE GROVE INTERVIEW

THE last time I saw Roger Taylor in the flesh was on the Wimbledon centre court. It was 1973 and schoolgirls were screaming for the 17-year-old Bjorn Borg but I had eyes only for my matinee idol Taylor, who not only beat the automation with the piercing narrow eyes, but behaved so sportingly. In the fifth set, and at match point, Taylor served what looked like an ace. Borg (the era of unorthodoxy had dawned) threw down his racket and said the serve was out. Taylor conceded — applause, groans of tension — played the serve again, and lost the point. But then won the next two points, and so made it into the semi-finals.

Twenty years later I am back at Wimbledon with Roger Taylor, and he is still the last British male to reach the semi-finals — though as I write there is hope: He retains that clean-shaven look tennis players had before stubble, and scowls came in, before we counted the hairs on their chests. As we walk through the throng the modest Taylor is constantly stopped, and hailed: "Hi, Roger," "Hi, Agassi's coach Nick Bollettieri," "Excuse me, Mr Taylor," from a young coach just out of university who wants to know how to get on in tennis.

Taylor was an unlikely champion. He came from Sheffield, started playing in the local park where his mother played, and became Yorkshire boys' champion with his wooden Grays racket. But there was no intensity about it. I spent quite a lot of time trying to dodge playing.

Still, instead of following his father into the Sheffield steelworks he took a train to London at 17 and went to live at the YMCA in Wimbledon for £3.2s 6d a week. There was no financial incentive, Taylor and another Yorkshire lad got day-jobs distributing Fred Perry sportswear, at £5 a week, and they could practise at Queen's and go to all the club tournaments at Frinton or Beckenham where, in those amateur days, all the world's best players came.

When the offer came to go pro in 1968, Taylor, who had

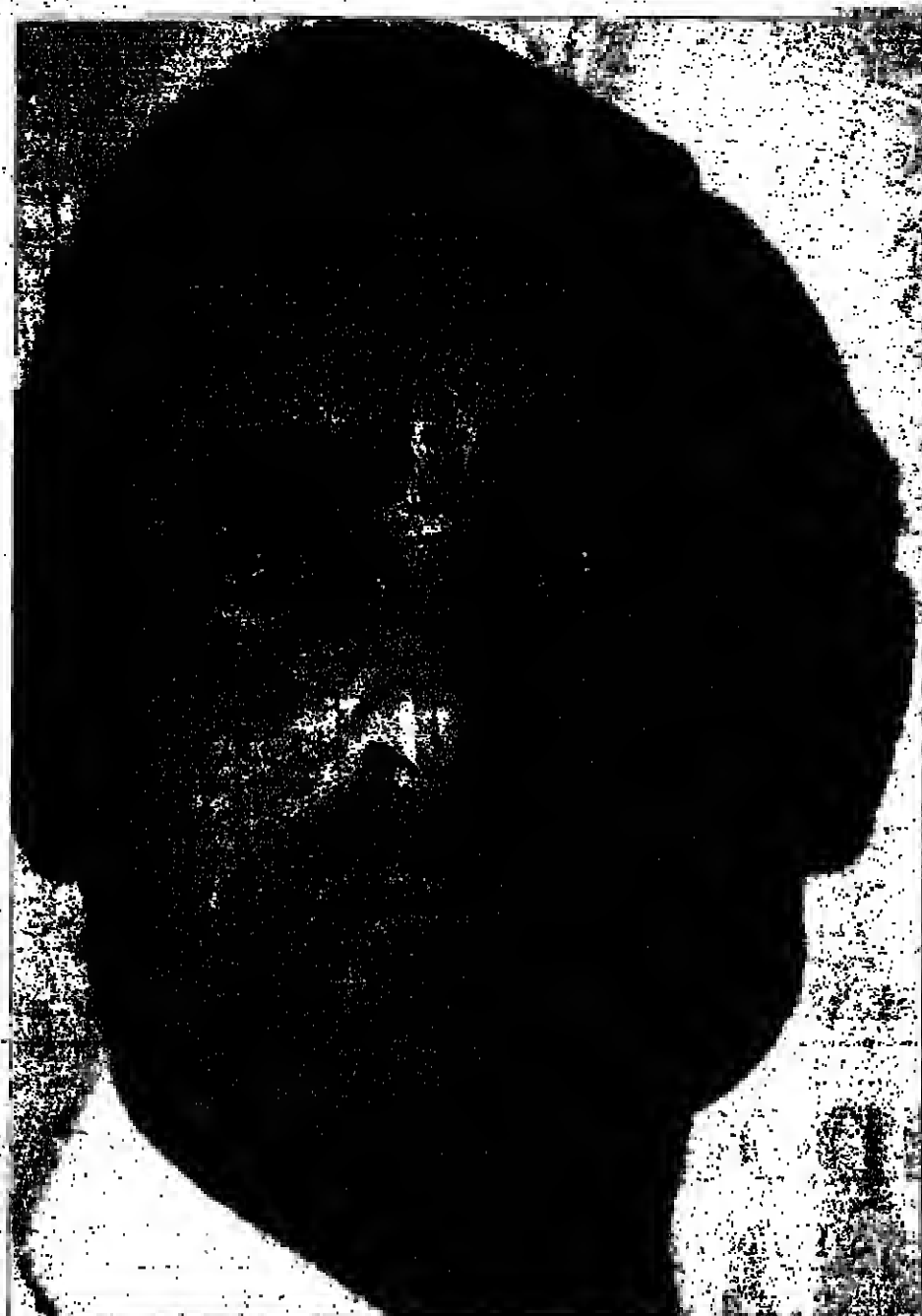
been a Wimbledon semi-finalist the previous year, took it and was immediately banned by the LTA. The stadium game had given them \$500 under-the-table payments and first-class air tickets. "But you couldn't see much of a future in it. We turned professional for the huge sum of \$30,000 a year. It was the first time we had any chance to earn a salary."

It was a character called Dave Dixon from New Orleans who got the Texan tycoon Lamar Hunt to back World Championship Tennis, and convinced the likes of Taylor, Filic, Newcombe and Roche that the game was about to explode into something quite different.

"Dixon had this remarkable attitude: 'Let's pump this game up a bit, let's get the crowd shouting.' Why did matches have to be so long? Why not coloured clothing? He put us in coloured shirts — I wore bright red. We played a 31-point match and there was a huge clock on court \$10 in the first quarter, \$30 in the second, up to \$50 in the last. The umpire had a klaxon and gave you so many seconds to change ends — no sitting down and mopping brows — talk about pressure and panic, and cheers and shouts."

After the deathly hush of the all-white centre court just out of its long flannels era, it was crazy, pioneering stuff. "In the Kansas City stockyards they had laid a court on the ice-rink, so the ballboys slid about on the ice and we came running onto court like rodeo riders under flashing strobe lights. Dixon would yell, 'All the ladies in the audience shout for Pierre Barthes, this big good-looking guy from France! If he wins you all get a bottle of perfume! And come on guys, cheer for Dennis Ralston, if he wins you all get a bottle of after-shave!'"

It was Herman David, the chairman of the All England Club, who realised the professional game was inevitable, so Wimbledon went open and Taylor and company were back in with money to play for. As a semi-finalist in 1967, Taylor had got nothing but a



Still playing to win: Taylor the international businessman today and on court in his heart-throb days when he was the last British male to reach the semi-finals

medal. In 1973 he got £2,000. "It seems nothing now, but it was a fortune compared with the £10 sports goods voucher we used to play for."

But what does the tennis player do when he stops winning? At 35, after his last Wimbledon, he took a family holiday in Portugal. Here he became involved in the Vale do Lobo resort where he has run Roger Taylor tennis holidays ever since. That is what he still does at 52, with a Wimbledon office and a house 100 yards from the All England Club. He has just come from Marbella, where he called on his old mate Lew Hoad, whose tennis camp was the first on the southern coast of Spain. He had been to El Madronal, the beautiful mountain-top club built by the veteran coach Segar Bastard, and is now arranging his first Roger Taylor tennis holidays this September: coaching in the morning, matches in the afternoon, disco all night.

Of course he would have liked to stay here and be involved with training new young players. "But we just couldn't get our foot in the door," he says. "I would have had a lot to offer... but you can't pin down the whys of it."

He becomes diffident: his sentences tail away unfinished. "I think to begin with, because we were professionals and our earnings were public, the people running the game couldn't afford to offer us a proper salary..." From time to time he would be called back. In 1978 he coached our Wightman Cup team to an unexpected victory; later he was invited to prepare Andrew

Castle for his first Wimbledon, when he took Wilander to five sets. He coached on request at Bisham Abbey. "But you can't spend your life waiting for a call from the LTA. I had to work for a living, find other things to do."

There is no answer to the annual moan about a British champion. The LTA has any number of schemes and ladders; children with comfortably-off tennis-minded parents, as ever, get the coaching and the chance to play in tournaments. Taylor trots out the argument about finding the Bash Street kids. "There's a boy I know from Tooting, not a bad little player, 14, plays in the Surrey county squad with my son Greg. This boy has to come by bus and tube to play. I drove him to the nationals last year but I can't do it this year, so he can't go. There's no system to take him up there."

"Wimbledon is now able to give huge sums to the British game — £100 million since 1980. What do they spend it on? From a business point of view it's been a bad investment, not to have produced a higher rank of player. I'm not just knocking the LTA: when Andy Castle looked good they gave him enormous help. And look, Australia has a tennis academy and yet they don't produce players any more either. You can't just make a player, you have to find the Daley Thompsons, the Nick Faldos, guys who have a dream, never think of quitting, practise more hours, train harder than anyone, and have that self-belief."

"It's the same with cricket and football — the rest of the

world has come up and moved past us."

I watched the Mark Petchey-Hlasek match on court 14: close, tense, full of thrilling moments, but it was the boy from Essex who afterwards said he felt "gutted". Plus ça change — but it's hard to say what more Petchey could have done, except win.

That evening Taylor hosted a Radio 5 programme in which Fred Stolle, Maria Bueno and Nick Brown answered listeners' questions about how the British game might be galvanised if we could only produce a role model champion. Taylor said it had always been tough to

make the transition from good junior to world-class senior, no wonder most kids give up. Fred Stolle (while monitoring his son Sandon's gallant defeat to Michael Stich) recalled that his parents had no car. He had to bus it to tournaments "but I was hungry".

The press, he said, put too much pressure on any young hopeful. It might take ten years to produce the next British world-beater. But defining the missing ingredient is as impossible for these veteran players as for anyone else.

"It's not good enough just to play nicely," Taylor says. "The

country is full of young players who have the strokes. Show me 100 good young players and you couldn't tell them apart. They'd all hit topspin forehands, double-handed backhands, fast serves — the modern racket can be swung at terrific speeds — they'd all be tall and athletic and would move well and be fit as fleas and they have 'mental toughness' on their T-shirts. But you would not be able to see the one ingredient you needed to see — character. It's the hardest thing to find, and it's invisible until you get to play on strange surfaces in foreign countries and beat other players. Talent alone won't get you

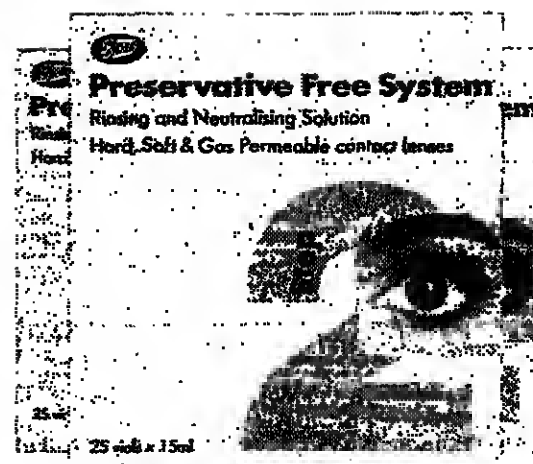
through." As we observe the perils of being Graf or Seles, it seems a masochistic life to wish on anyone: a numinous, exhibitionist rock-star status, stalked by mad fans.

Being in the company of the unassuming Taylor evokes the time when sporting heroes made the world seem a finer and fairer place. He and his peers might have been harnessed to helping the British game. Instead, Taylor — who still wins the British veterans' title whenever he enters — spends his time showing affluent businessmen how to achieve a killer backhand in the sun. But then, as Martina said, it's only a game.

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Artful Dodgers in suburbia

An interesting aspect of the fuss about Lady Olga's boys is the way in which the news media automatically describe them in 19th-century terms. The Sutton High Street Burglary Posse, to give them their preferred title, are everywhere compared with the Artful Dodger and his chums. The fences with whom they cash in the goods they have nicked — earning up to £2,000 for a single evening's expert larceny, it is said — are the Fagin in this Victorian juvenile crime wave in modern dress.

They're cockier than the Dodger's gang, though: after stealing a business card printing press, the 12 to 14-year-olds involved printed calling cards to leave at the scene of their crime. Their MP, Lady Olga Maitland, described their activities when she introduced a Ten-minute Rule Bill to enable magistrates to bypass the social services, and send persistent young offenders to secure units. Afterwards she was inundated with faxes from police superintendents from Sussex to Northumbria, saying they were at their wits' end with identical gangs on their own otherwise pleasant patches.

We are not, therefore, talking about furive crime in the teeming alleyways of Dickensian London. We're talking about it in des. res. territory, in the bright, broad High Streets of self-consciously respectable towns. The mother of one star member of the Sutton Posse, an antique dealer, told *The Sun* a couple of months ago that her little daughter didn't need the money. "I once bought him a pair of £97 trainers he asked for, but the next day he came home in a pair he had stolen," she said, adding that neither carrots (trips to Disney World, Tenerife, and Tunisia, not to mention the trainers) nor sticks



MARGOT NORMAN

(expulsion from school at 11, a spell in a special school for delinquent boys, followed by a tough French private school from which he ran home to Sutton) had worked. And the only thing for it after an orgy of more than 200 raids on shops was to "put him in a cage and chain him up like a wild animal".

The courts and social workers refused to detain him because he came from a good home, but when his mother tried caging him, he would just smash a window and escape. He sounds like the 18th-century nine-year-old in Suffolk who was sent to a house of correction as a punishment for running away from home, and chained up in a locked cell, but promptly escaped. He had run away to follow his uncle, an itinerant and apparently proficient magician.

The notion of juvenile crime as a special category requiring special remedies only surfaced in the 1820s and 1830s. Since then it has periodically been the focus of a national moral panic of the kind we are seeing now. Similarly, the notion of the habitual criminal took shape and frightened the populace during Dickens's lifetime. Perhaps it was especially threat-

ening at a time when Britain and Empire seemed to be going from strength to strength — the worm in the bud. Then as now, there was concern over the social consequences of economic change, although that change now runs in the opposite direction.

Peter King, an expert in 19th-century criminal history, who lectures at Nene College of Higher Education, was much struck by the concerns of police officers who interviewed him recently after his car was pinched by teenage joy-riders. Juvenile crime and the habitual criminal, the two great Victorian bogeys, were wrapped up in this single figure of the persistent teenage offender. As a former social worker, he knows that most boys (we'll leave girls out of it for now) steal at some time between 11 and 14, regardless of what social class they come from.

Checking his assertion with six eminent professional gentlemen, I found it 100 per cent accurate: their youthful offences ranged from scrumping apples and pinching sweets from Woolworth's, to stealing clothes from an expensive boutique. The dress-thief, who stole for his girlfriend, is now a senior accountant.

As a historian, Mr King is familiar with the Victorian Habitual Offenders Act, of which huge propaganda use was made at the time, both by its disciplinary proponents and civil libertarian detractors. Yet recent research suggests relatively few criminals were ever thus classified.

Mr King and Lady Olga would both say we need to divert the great majority of young criminals, presumably in the knowledge that a percentage will turn accountant, and find a way of isolating that cocky and apparently incurable young crime addict.

Janet Daley



For all the good intentions, telling children what sex is really about is inherently difficult

John Patten, as if he did not have troubles enough, is to take over responsibility for sex education in schools. Good luck to him. It is my experience that even with the most clear-cut of intentions — in the privacy of one's own home and with no serious differences on the matter between oneself and one's spouse — explaining sex to children is no simple business. Parental precedents are scarcely any help at all, except perhaps in the negative sense, since almost everyone I know is determined that however they say it, they will not make the mistakes that their own mothers made.

In my case, it was a matter of modifying the maternal pattern, rather than rejecting it outright. My own mother was clearly itself when it came to the details of conception and childbirth. With unembarrassed comprehensiveness, she outlined the full procedure, complete with diagrams and an addendum on puberty. For a brief time, my copious knowledge of the mechanics gave me unrivalled authority in the primary school playground. The comedian Robbie Coltrane tells of gaining a similar ascendancy from his doctor father. When other kids were still at the stage of piecing together rumours — "And then the lady does what?" — he was able to draw fallopian tubes from memory.

Unfortunately, my mother failed to point out that sex was ever practised for any reason other than making babies. This omission, came to light when I overheard the rather startling comment that an aunt's pregnancy had been an "accident". Now given my considerable store of information about the way that such things came about, it seemed quite impossible that one could — um — go through the necessary steps without being aware of them. How, I demanded, could this possibly be? My parents then muttered something rather less clear than their earlier expositions had been, to the effect that the act was also engaged in for pleasure.

And here is where we encounter the most serious obstacle to full and frank discussions of sex between adult and child. For physiological reasons, mature sexual desire is incompressible to children. Most of the hopeless euphemism and confusion in which one invariably flounders when attempting to explain what it is really all about, revolves around the impossibility of trying to make young children see why it is done at all. The need to create babies is the easiest cop-out.

The other one, chosen by idealistically progressive parents like me, is the account of Sex as the Ex-

pression of Love Between Two People. This, I discovered, brings with it another set of problems. Having judiciously constructed an edifice of which affection and tenderness were the basic structure, having referred throughout to "making love" rather than "having intercourse" (or the trendily brutal "screwing" which is favoured by the most uncompromising households), I then found myself up against the challenge of explaining rape.

I remember my nine-year-old daughter being unable to take my warnings about strange men seriously. "Why should a man who doesn't even know me want to make love to me?" she asked poignantly. Well, I had walked right into that, hadn't I? And of course even without the shadow of sexual crime hanging over one's attempts to present the act as something decent and beautiful, there is no way to prevent children from picking up the ubiquitous clues that there are other ways of seeing it.

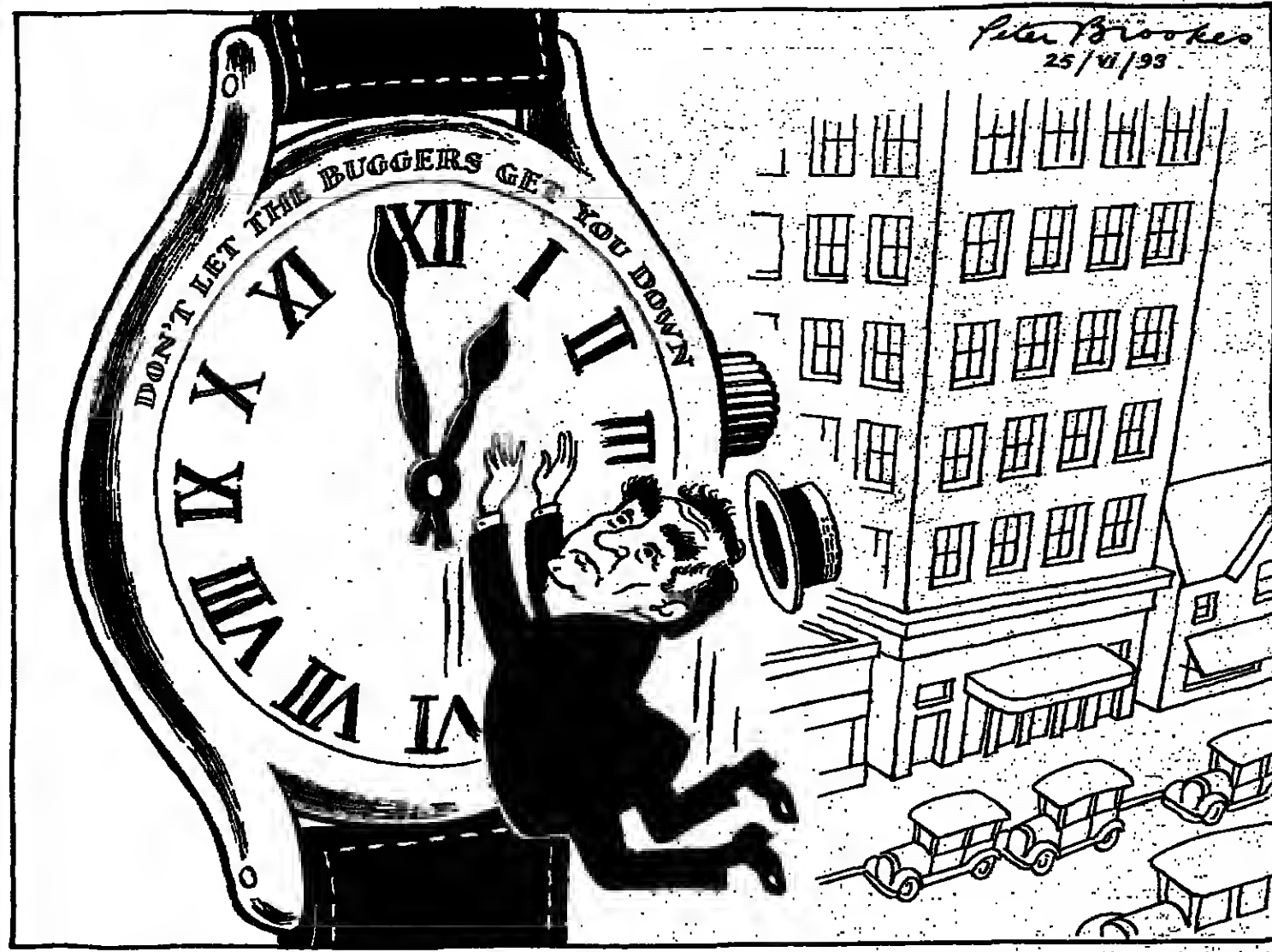
Even if they do not watch X-rated videos or television after the watershed, they will be surrounded by images of sexual titillation.

No observant 12-year-old is likely to be unaware that it is possible to distinguish between love and sexual pleasure (whatever it is). If sex isn't necessary to do with love or procreation, then what are you to say about its function? Even if you are one of the happy few whose religious or moral convictions make your stand on this clear-cut, you will presumably feel obliged to give some account of the view which prevails in the popular culture that sex can be seen as recreation.

And once you have admitted the possibility of that, what do you say about fidelity, premarital experience, casual encounters? Something that may come as a surprise to those still at the sperm-drawing stage, is that every generation develops a sexual ethic of its own. My daughters, now 18 and 21, seem to be part of a more monogamous generation than ours was in the 1960s.

Which is not to say that what you tell them doesn't matter; or maybe it is more the way you tell it that matters, or the very fact that you tried to say anything at all instead of leaving it to the forces behind the bike-sheds (or whatever is the contemporary equivalent). However many influences flood in later, they will be sieved through that first frame of reference. The real difficulty, now that the soft porn of video is invading television programmes for even the youngest children, is getting in with your version first. Perhaps Mr Patten needs to consider anatomically correct dolls for the nursery class.

Having endured such a public execution, Michael Mates has ducked out of a potentially grueling outing in his own constituency today. East Hampshire Conservative Association has cancelled its branch annual meeting this evening. Steven Owen, the local



Compounding the evil

Holocaust-denial sounds like a form of insanity. But in the swamp of ignorance it can grow, and will

Who said these words, and about whom? "He was a man whose only fault was that he was too soft, generous and honourable." Don't bother about the author, who was called Harry Elmer Barnes — you won't have heard of him — just guess who was the man with only a single fault and that fault was being too soft, generous and honourable.

Give up? Adolf Hitler. Barnes, who is dead, I am happy to say, was one of the most extreme of non-German Nazis; he was an American, and propagated Hitler-worship and Jew-hatred. If you want another merry quip from him, how about this: "The destructive violence inflicted on the Germans [in the second world war] by the Allies was more brutal and painful than the alleged exterminations in the gas-chambers."

Hang on to that "alleged"; it is going to come in handy. For what I am going to write about today is the extraordinary phenomenon that has been given the name of "Holocaust-denial", the claim that the gas-chambers and the millions who died terribly in them did not exist.

Many people will balk at having to believe that there is such a thing as Holocaust-denial. Well, there is; but that would not matter much, vile as it would be, if it was confined to a handful of mad or twisted or extreme anti-Semites or even deeply evil poisoners of the wells of truth. The Dowager Lady Birdwood, for instance, truly believes that Jews kill gentle children to drink their blood (if you ask me, she is mistaken in this belief), but no one would seriously worry very much about someone like her. And indeed, it is easy to beat her Ladyship in the matter of strangeness; there are Holocaust-deniers who insist that Auschwitz was equipped, for the inmates, with a swimming-pool, a dance-hall and recreational facilities.

Why, then, bother about the riff-raff of madness or of later-day Nazi evil? One statistic gives the answer: an opinion poll, from a most reputable organisation, found that in the United States, 22 per cent of adults who were asked the question said it was possible that the Holocaust had never happened, and a further 12 per cent said that they did not know if the Holocaust had been possible.

The admirable and most scholarly periodical called *Patterns of Prejudice* has recently carried a thorough examination of Holocaust-denial, by Deborah Lipstadt, a professor of

religion at Emory University in Atlanta; she has written a book called *Denying the Holocaust*, and her article was drawn from her research for the book. I started the article, as I suppose most people would, in a sceptical mood; I knew, of course, about Holocaust-denial and those who propagate it, but I could not bring myself to believe that it could do serious damage, in the sense that a substantial number of people, neither anti-Semitic nor mad, might come to believe that history's greatest crime had never been committed.

I still find it impossible to believe that, in Britain at least, any substantial number of people would believe what the "No Holocaust" madmen and scoundrels say. From time to time, I receive anti-Semitic leaflets and other such matter; it is almost always shoddy, illiterate and obviously mad. Only one item had any kind of possible persuasiveness, which was a broadsheet, neatly designed to look like a real newspaper, with a headline reading "Holocaust News".

Mrs Lipstadt, however, has made an appallingly powerful case that Holocaust-denial is taken seriously in the United States. When a survey among the leading colleges of America revealed that 75 per cent of the students did not know who said "government of the people, by the people and for the people", the extent of such ignorance is itself so dangerous that it is obviously a swamp in which Holocaust-denial can, and obviously will, grow. (Political correctness also gives hostages to the denial argument.)

There is much worse to come from Mrs Lipstadt. She reveals that the No Holocaust argument has made itself "respectable" by infiltrating and founding magazines, publishing books dressed up to look scholarly, and in general abandoning the ravings that were so easily brushed aside at the beginning. Serious debates take place in universities and

on television, giving widespread respectability to this evil, and the peddlers of it have been skilful at taking the high ground of free speech, intellectual freedom and the right to challenge conventional beliefs. Worse still, in universities, in the media and elsewhere, the No Holocaust argument is now treated like any ordinary point of view, and those who refuse to debate with the purveyors of it find themselves criticised for refusing.

It has long been true that when it comes to clothes, behaviour, entertainment, food, literature, music, learning and many other areas of life,

the United States sends us, simultaneously, both the best and the worst of what it has to offer. Why this should be, I have never understood, and I don't think anyone else does, but it is plain to see.

If that holds in the matter of Holocaust-denial, Britain is in for a wave of this mad argument, and who knows where it will go?

But there is another aspect of this terrible lie to be considered. I was born in 1928, my formative years were inescapably those of the second world war, and as anyone of my age will demonstrate, we see history, inescapably, through the eyes of the war. It has become, for us, the permanent watershed; again and again we hear ourselves saying "before the war", "just after the war", "when the war was over".

Very well; but add another generation to ours and they are in the 1950s, where no bombs fall; tell us what it was like, uncle. One more step in generations, and 1970 looms; what is that old fool in the chimney-corner muttering about? Come up to the present; look at the world through the eyes of a youth or girl in 1993 who has just graduated. "Who did you say? Mrs Gaskell? Ah, we read her for Eng. Lit." "No, I didn't say Mrs Gaskell, I said Hugh Galskell." A silence falls.

That must happen. And if it must happen, it will happen over the

Holocaust, too. History may not be impartial, but it does not stifle still. Do our schools today teach the Holocaust? I don't know; let me assume that they do. But the truth, the inevitable truth, is that for children in schools today the Holocaust ranks along with the Massacre of Glencoe, the Pilgrimage of Grace, and that bloke who got an arrow in his eye and let in William the Conqueror. None of these things has anything to do with us, because they happened a long time ago, and things that have happened a long time ago are "history", and the most obvious thing about history is that it is over. The moving finger writes... but it does not mind if nobody bothers to read what it says.

The generation before mine was formed in the first world war; we read about the horrors of the Somme; or the blundering generals, or the Christmas Truce, but it was history, not life, and we yawned at the third or fourth repetition. The Holocaust, to be sure, is unique, and its power to stun the mind will fade more slowly than anything in history. Yet it will fade, and sooner or later it will be one with the rest of history. The swift white deny the Holocaust do so because they hate Jews; and the hatred of Jews is something that will not go away just because it should.

Whatever the past has done, we cannot live in it. What is the difference between forgetting the Holocaust and denying it? A brutal question, but I pause to think about that 75 per cent of American students in the finest of American colleges who didn't know who said that thing about government and probably had no idea who Abraham Lincoln was anyway. No doubt a great proportion — perhaps the same proportion or even more — of the same college students would be unable to say what the Holocaust was. But suppose a Holocaust memorial were to be erected in every village, every town square, every highway; would it make much difference? Difference, that is, from the indifference.

And some there be, which have no memorial. Most of us, but if every one of the Holocaust victims had a Shield of David in stone, would it bring them back to life? Yes, it is a terrible insult — the liars claim that it did not happen. It did; but all we can do about it now is vow that it will never happen again. Ever? How long is ever?

How the drama unfolds

Peter Riddell on Michael Mates and the Fates

Michael Mates at last, and reluctantly, did his duty as a regimental officer. He quit rather than be sacked, though the distinction is more of presentation than substance. With a mudge from the whips, he fell on his sword only hours before the executive of the 1922 committee of Tory backbenchers was likely to issue the execution order.

The departure of Mr Mates is similar to previous resignations, in 1983 as those of Cecil Parkinson and in 1983 and of David Mellor last September. While often described as dramatic, they are scarcely ever sudden. They are more like the long-drawn-out finale of a five act tragedy, or, occasionally, melodrama.

In the first act comes a startling press disclosure about some alleged wrongdoing: in Lord Parkinson's case it was his affair with Sara Keays, in Mr Mellor's, his affair with Antonia de Sanctis, an actress; and in Mr Mates's it was his gift of a luridly inscribed watch to Asil Nadir when he was facing criminal charges.

In the second act, the prime minister dismisses the misdemeanour as minor and expresses support for the minister — as Mr Major did for Mr Mates only two weeks ago when he said the gift was "not a hanging offence". Fellow MPs, usually rally round, arguing that such a "sound" minister should not be hounded out of office by the media for one minor offence.

In the third act, after a lull, rumbling discontent on the backbenches increases after rumours of more problems; self-righteous MPs mutter about the minister's failings.

In the fourth act, further disclosures cast doubt on previous assurances. In Lord Parkinson's case, the key was Sara Keays's interview with *The Times*; in Mr Mellor's, the disclosures about holidays paid for by the daughter of an official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation; and in Mr Mates's it was the leak of a letter from him to the Attorney-General putting forward Mr Nadir's complaints; and the ITN report yesterday lunchtime about Mr Mates dining with Mr Nadir's public relations adviser. The minister remains defiant. On the eve of his resignation, Mr Mates went on television to argue that the main question was whether the prime minister or the editors of the tabloid newspapers would decide his future. The prime minister then detaches himself from the increasingly isolated minister.

In the fifth and final act, backbenchers call for the minister to go to end the spate of allegations which are damaging the party. The "robust minister" finally departs. Often the executioner is the 1922 committee or its executive. Their anger did for Leon Brittan in January 1986, and Sir Marcus Fysh, its chairman, played a crucial role in Mr Mellor's departure, and was ready to do the same for Mr Mates. Amid a burst of moralising, the resignation is then seen as inevitable.

This week the Mates affair moved rapidly from the third to the fifth act. Until Mr Major's announcement it had looked as though Mr Mates would rebel against the conventions of the drama, rather like a character in one of Tom Stoppard's earlier plays. But yesterday the inescapable logic of the drama reassured itself.

John Major's comment on Thursday that Mr Mates had acted with complete propriety in raising with the Attorney-General concerns put to him about Mr Nadir's case, was disingenuous. It had become clear that Mr Mates had acted as more than a detached MP putting forward grievances from a member of the public. The leaked letter showed him as a committed advocate of Mr Nadir's case, and, in the eyes of many MPs, as lacking the judgment expected of a minister.

A prime minister does not himself want to sack a minister who he has previously said has done nothing wrong. The prime minister cannot be seen to have changed his mind. So the resigning minister says he is going in order to help the prime minister. Mr Mellor said last September he was going because he had become "a burden" to Mr Major and his colleagues. Mr Mates yesterday told Mr Major "he deeply regretted the embarrassment being caused to the government". These are euphemisms for the minister losing the confidence of the prime minister and fellow MPs. Mr Major did not try to persuade Mr Mates to stay.

The risk is that the prime minister appears passive and indecisive, letting events take their course rather than imposing his will as Atlee did when telling one minister that he was being sacked because he was "not up to the job". Mr Major was accused last September of being too loyal for too long to Mr Mellor, and, curious though it now seems, of being too loyal to Norman Lamont.

The longer-term impact of resignations is often much less than the immediate row — though judging by his double-edged letter last night, Mr Mates's expected personal statement to the Commons could cause ripples. In general, however, former ministers are merely diverting footnotes. And, with rare exceptions, such as Lord Parkinson, they rarely return to office.

The Chancellor's tale

JOHN MAJOR'S regret on hearing of the resignation of his Northern Ireland security minister Michael Mates will be as nothing when he hears this news. Norman Lamont, the Chancellor he sacked last month, is vigorously pressing ahead with plans to publish his side of the story.

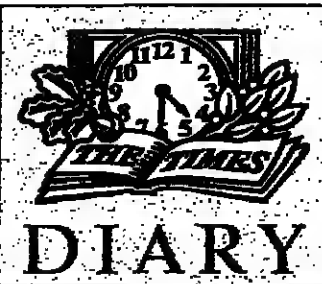
Lamont has apparently held discussions with the literary agency Peters, Fraser & Dunlop, and is already working on a synopsis. If this proves acceptable and Lamont can get a move on, there is still an outside chance that a book could be out in time for the Tory party conference in October. It is a measure of Lamont's keenness to tell his story that it is believed he initiated the search for an agent, not the other way round. Caroline Dawney of PFD admits she is "holding talks" with Lamont, but stresses that "nothing has been decided yet".

This is a surprise, given that only last week one of the firm's senior agents, Michael Sissons, the man who brought Lord Lawson's memoirs to the public, was quoted as saying that he "would have serious reservations about taking on such a book".

According to Dawney, "that interview was done very soon after he resigned. Things have changed since then, and Norman Lamont seems to have taken the points Michael made in quite good heart." Lamont, however, has not yet made his final choice. Dawney is "sure he is talking to others".

Despite the news that Lamont plans to press ahead, bookellers are still sceptical. Terry Maher, chairman of Pentos, which owns Dillons and Hatchards, says: "It will depend on the content. Alan Clark has whetted people's appetites — but he has the winning combination of being able to write well and being so indiscreet. Norman Lamont has a reputation for neither. But he had a ringside seat through the leadership crisis and Black Wednesday, and all that could be very interesting. But he'll have to write it soon."

Having endured such a public execution, Michael Mates has ducked out of a potentially grueling outing in his own constituency today. East Hampshire Conservative Association has cancelled its branch annual meeting this evening. Steven Owen, the local



agent, says: "Michael did not want to drag his own association members into the inevitable media circus." How very honourable.

Best dressed man

SO John Patten, the education secretary, is still in good enough shape to fit into the dinner-jacket he had made for him as a student at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, over 20 years ago. His wife Louise's disclosure comes as no surprise to gentlemen's outfitters in the city, however. Despite the recession, which has forced the cancellation of five May balls this term, the bespoke trade in dinner-jackets appears to be thriving.

"We still have as many students coming in, and they are definitely still looking for bespoke," says Edie

& Ravenscroft, the Cambridge tailor. "In John Patten's day it would have cost about £150, but we made one last week for £375. It may seem expensive but it's well worth it if they last 25 years."

Coffers splutter

RIPPLES from the row over Conservative party donations are spreading. The National Trust for Scotland has been besieged by members infuriated by reports of trust funds flowing to Conservative coffers. The Trust is understandably perplexed, for it has given the Tories nothing.

In fact, the Conservatives are benefiting from the Scottish National Trust, a Glasgow-based investment company which has nothing to do with the National Trust for Scotland, the heritage body. "It is a problem, and one or two members have resigned," admits a spokesman. "Our full name is quite a mouthful and people often call us the Scottish National Trust. But we're a charity and don't give money to any political party."

Stick with it

WILL Mickey Mouse turn out for the opening of the Queen Elizabeth Gate at Hyde Park Corner next

month? He has been on the Queen Mother's arm for the past two weeks, but there is no telling whether he will grace it again.

The mouse we are talking about, of course, decorates a sticking plaster on the royal right arm. The Disney dressing was first displayed at Trooping the Colour nearly a fortnight ago; it — or, at least one very like it — appeared again this week when she unveiled a statue of General de Gaulle. Now the question is whether the Queen Mother will make it three Mickey's running at the gate's opening ceremony on July 6.

Disney, despite reports of a four-fold increase in plaster sales since the Queen Mum's initial endorsement, hopes she won't need one. "It

Keep on taking the Mickey





EXIT MR MATES

The resignation was late but not too late

By resigning yesterday, Michael Mates limited the damage that his conduct had brought to the government. The shadowy trail that began with an inscribed watch given to the fugitive tycoon Asil Nadir and led to fierce debates on the financing of political parties was bound to return to the question of ministerial conduct. John Major would doubtless have preferred an earlier departure. But he can be thankful that the result was not a direct political victory for Labour or a proof that he needed the 1992 committee to do his difficult work for him. Nor was he forced to sack Mr Mates, who chose finally to do the decent thing.

Yesterday's disclosure of a letter from Mr Mates to the attorney-general pleading Mr Nadir's case in extravagant terms made the Northern Ireland minister's position untenable. It ended the pretence that his initial interest in the case was prompted by a constituent. It is now obvious that the Mr Mates's anxieties about the conduct of police and Inland Revenue officers pursuing Mr Nadir in northern Cyprus were personal rather than strictly public-spirited.

Mr Mates had already done enough to weaken his credibility as a minister. His gift of a watch to the former Polly Peck chairman may not have been "a hanging offence", but it betrayed poor judgment. The same can be said of accepting the loan of a car from Mr Nadir's public relations firm, after the former Polly Peck chairman jumped bail. Had Mr Mates gone last week, he might

have saved the government considerable embarrassment. Instead, there was the curious semi-public attempt to link M16 to the downfall of Mr Nadir and Polly Peck. For a fugitive from justice to claim that his plight is part of a shadowy plot to reunify Cyprus is a predictable act of self-dramatisation. For a minister of the Crown, with direct responsibility for working with the security services, to be behind such claims would surely constitute grounds for principled resignation — or the sack.

Mr Major's vacillation over Mr Mates remains perplexing. The prime minister was doubtless as determined to resist media calls for a colleague's head as he was when David Mellor and Norman Lamont were under attack. More creditably, he may have been reluctant to oust a close ally of Michael Heseltine while the President of the Board of Trade was on his sick bed. Whatever his motives, the impression of dither has not helped a prime minister who is still seen as "on probation" by his own MPs.

Mr Major must now hope that Mr Mates does not make a resignation statement as damaging as Norman Lamont's. He must hope that the investigations into Mr Nadir are being carried out with impeccable respect for procedure and without malice; that those who have released information about Mr Mates have no disclosures left with which to undermine the government; and that the miserable trail that began with a foolish gift has turned towards its end.

AN IDEA WORTH BACKING

Russia is taking to private enterprise and the West must help

One of the few clear signs that President Clinton is capable of taking a lead on the international stage is his determined advocacy of a strong and generous Western partnership with Russian reformers. When the Group of Seven meets next month in Tokyo, Washington wants its partners to agree on a bold initiative to help Russia make a success of privatising its economy. America floated the proposal, with a \$4 billion price tag attached, at the emergency G7 summit called just before the Russian referendum last April, but obtained no more from its allies than a promise to "study" the idea before the full July economic summit.

Yesterday, to keep the plan alive, Washington was forced to announce that the fund would start life with only \$1 billion because of the West's "serious financial constraints". Japan's foreign minister promptly dismissed even that figure as "preposterous". The Russian people, he said, could not possibly privatise successfully until they fully understand the mechanisms of a market economy. This is tantamount to saying that Russia will have no help of this kind until it no longer needs it.

Even the most sympathetic observer would have to acknowledge that Boris Yeltsin's progress on reforms since the April referendum has been patchy. The exasperating pantomime of the continuing constitutional struggle between president and parliament in Moscow inevitably gives the impression that the support he won in April for his leadership and, more remarkably, for economic reform, changed nothing.

His post-referendum appointments to the Russian government itself remain a cypher hard to decode: by picking a reformer here, an old companion in arms such as Yuri Lobov there, he has forced the "Chicago boys" and the older generation of Soviet-era managers into uneasy, unstable cohabitation. The distrust between Russia's finance ministry and central bank remains absolute, despite last month's long-awaited formal agreement on deep cuts in credit expansion, inflation and the budget deficit.

Yet the G7 decision, adopted in April, to relax conditions on aid for Russia and speed up its disbursement remains the right one. This is not only because, as President Clinton has emphasised, Western interests

would be grievously damaged should reforms turn sour and Russia slide into oppressive and xenophobic dictatorship. It is because the real Russian economy is changing. For all the political chaos, good use could be made now of imaginative Western assistance. This is particularly true of Russia's mass privatisation programme.

This radical and ambitious programme is proceeding at speed. Even last year, when nothing else went well, 33,400 small businesses were sold; almost all will be in private hands by the end of this year. Voucher auctions for medium and large enterprises started only last December, but this year's "sales target" of 5,000 looks realistic and after an initial slump, the secondary market value of the vouchers issued to all Russians is rising. Privatisation is also helping the conversion of the military-industrial sector to civilian production, an important Western policy objective. Skilled workers and sophisticated technology are being applied to everything from mass-market torches to fibre-optic probes for the Japanese market. Most helpfully of all, Russians have taken to playing this infant market, undeterred by rudimentary business laws and the risks of being taken for a ride by corrupt operators.

This is Russia's best hope of entrenching the ways of the market in the popular psyche. Since the April referendum, regions which had formerly refused to hold these auctions have joined in. But in an economy where grossly overstated giant state monopolies provided cradle-to-grave welfare benefits for their employees, socially and politically hazardous choices are involved in putting them on a commercial footing.

Lay-offs will be inevitable, on a scale which will demand a much-improved social security safety net. The new companies are desperately short of capital, and almost as short of experience in market management. The privatisation fund could, as the former Russian prime minister Yegor Gaidar believes, be the single most important type of practical aid the West could provide. Most European governments are no keener than Japan's to add fresh money to the \$43 billion package of aid and credits they came up with in April. But there are sound arguments, both political and economic, for giving the American scheme their decisive backing.

FLOWERS THAT BLOOM BY THE M

Some men in Whitehall have greenish fingers

Beside the M6 blows the English rock-roast. Also, blowing in the slipstream and exhaust gusts of juggernauts flourish sneezewort and scabious, meadowsweet and marjoram, with all the other wild flowers of a Gilbert White idyll of rural England.

These are planted and nurtured not by environmentalists but by the Department of Transport, commonly abused by Greens as the motor industry Moloch, especially when it wants to run a bypass through their own particular vale of the backwoods. But yesterday, the department published its official wildflower handbook in order to encourage the designers of roads to plant flowers on their roadside verges, and to instruct them in the best species and methods of artfully wild husbandry.

This modernisation of the Georgics for a motorised age comes from a source until now considered more likely to publish a guide to dead animals found on motorways or to lavatories not found beside them. As a sideline, the department happens to be the gardener of an estate larger than the Isle of Wight. But its garden is too long and thin for profitable cultivation, consisting of the verges beside 6,500 miles of motorway and trunk road throughout England and Wales.

This constitutes the longest ribbon development in Britain, quite untouched by farmers, subsidies, fertilisers, pesticides, EC

directives, and human interference, except for temporary castaways sitting on the bank after their cars have broken down, while they wait for the emergency services to come to their rescue. The roadside is a place naturally set aside, which makes it a nature reserve for the wild things: butterflies and other insects, which have brought back the voles, for which the kestrels and other hawks now hover above the motorways. The department plants 2.5 million trees a year, more than the Forestry Commission.

The best wild-life sanctuaries are those where man neither goes in numbers nor farms. Hedgerows and later disused railway lines have become the habitat for the ancient flora and fauna of England. Now the edges of motorways are natural sanctuaries.

Let a thousand wild flowers bloom; give the motorists something to look at other than the tailback ahead of them and the lines of cones syphoning them down to one lane. Flowers do furnish a roadside and help it to blend into the landscape. Flower power provides corridors of conservation, and acts better than billboards to protest that the heart of the Department of Transport is in the right place. If the department should eventually succeed in covering the whole of southern England with concrete and tarmac, at least the verges will bloom as floral museums and memorials of old wilderness.

Local councils' altered powers

From the Chairman of the Executive Council of the Association of County Councils

Sir, Lord Rippon (letter, June 22) criticises the Local Government Commission's recommendations on the powers of local councils and calls for amendment of the government's guidance on how the commission should conduct the review. The Association of District Councils, of which he is president, accepted both the appointment of the commission and the guidance. He now calls for the rules to be changed because he does not like the results.

The commission's proposals for county-unitary authorities offer a new and imaginative approach to the government of local communities by creating new roles for parish and town councils in both consultation and service delivery alongside the strategic role of the principal authority. On that ground alone they deserve support.

These proposals will also cut local government overheads at a time when every available pound is needed for front-line services. I am afraid it is no good Lord Rippon trying to wish this away.

Yours faithfully,

DENNIS PETTIT.

Chairman, Executive Council, Association of County Councils, Eaton House, 66a Eaton Square, SW1, June 23.

From Lady Maude

Sir, Lord Rippon has not perhaps given due weight to the fact that, within each shire county — however large — there are a number of market towns, both large and small. They have all enjoyed a long history of self-government; they have strong traditions of managing their own affairs; they owe the quality of their townscapes to the generosity of their citizens in the past and the survival of that quality to the efforts of their own people today.

To restore to these places the statutory powers of which they were so insultingly deprived in 1974 would provide the perfect correction, and counter-balance, to any feeling of remoteness conveyed by the large size and long distances of a rural county. Should not the Local Government Commission's remit, therefore, now be revised to allow proper consideration to be given to restoring the proper status of our towns, including cost savings?

Yours faithfully,

BARBARA MAUDE, Old Farm, South Newington, Nr Banbury, Oxfordshire, June 22.

Out of control

From Mrs Isabelle Harvey Johnston

Sir, I read with sympathy the letter from Mrs Vera Posner (June 15) about the idiosyncrasy of some kitchen furniture manufacturers.

I "inherited" a delightful-looking modern kitchen, only to discover that the 6in and 8in-deep drawers all have 3in sides and a 6in gap at the back. To retrieve the contents which have overflowed I often have to take out all the drawers and grovel at the back of an empty unit.

When I went in person to the manufacturer to see if I could buy deeper sides for each drawer I was looked at with astonishment and told that those which I had were "normal".

Yours sincerely,

ISOBELLE H. JOHNSTON, 11 Brammer Close, Crooked Lane, Seaford, East Sussex, June 16.

From Mrs Shirley Zangwill

Sir, I have solved the kitchen problem — well, almost solved it — by having deep drawers below the working surfaces. Now I can see at a glance the dried goods, tinned food, crockery etc not as good as a walk-in pantry, but so much better than cupboards.

Yours faithfully,

SHIRLEY ZANGWILL, 247 Chesterton Road, Cambridge.

From Mrs Beryl Rosenbaum

Sir, I can sympathise with Mrs Posner. Did she, I wonder, have less difficulty in finding a sink large enough to accommodate an ordinary washing-up bowl — or a bucket for when the window cleaner asks for clean water? (Yes, I know, someone is bound to ask: "What's a window cleaner?")

Sincerely,

BERYL ROSENBAUM, 18 Village Way, Pinner, Middlesex.

New Tate 'monster'

From the Reverend John Draper

Sir, How can the Prince of Wales not describe the new Tate Gallery at St Ives as a "monstrous carbuncle"? Perhaps because (a) it is in the Duchy of Cornwall, or (b) it is not in his backyard.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN DRAPER, Saint Faith's House, Shandy Street, E1, June 24.

Nadir role in backing illegal regime

From Lord Bethell, MEP for London North West (European Democrat (Conservative))

Sir, I do not care very much if Mr Michael Mates gave Mr Asil Nadir a cheap watch, or if Mr Nadir lent Mrs Mates a car for two weeks. I do, however, care about the part Mr Nadir has played in propping up the illegal regime in northern Cyprus with its occupying forces of 40,000 Turkish soldiers and about what successive British governments have done (or not done) about it.

We are one of Cyprus's guarantor powers. Yet we allow Mr Nadir and others to make money out of British tourists in northern Cyprus, through hotels and other facilities seized by the Turkish army and stolen from their original owners in 1974.

Many of these British tourists fly direct from London to northern Cyprus, even though there is no legal international airport there. They get round the rules by touching down in Turkey for a few minutes and changing the flight number. The authorities in London turn a blind eye to this.

Mr Nadir's citrus products enter Britain, even though they carry none of the import or health documents required by EC and British law.

Nowadays any Turk who wishes can move from Anatolia to northern Cyprus, acquire immediate Turkish-Cypriot citizenship and an identity card, on the basis of which he or she can enter Britain without further problem. I am advised that our immigration officers make no check on whether visitors from northern Cyprus with these papers are genuine Turkish-Cypriots, or Turkish citizens, who, of course, require entry visas.

It is ironic that, after all our kindness to Mr Rauf Denktaş and his illegal government, one of his closest friends and supporters should now be causing Britain such grief. They are humiliating us and I do not think that the British government ought to tolerate their illegalities any longer.

Yours sincerely, NICHOLAS BETHELL (Chairman, Friends of Cyprus), 73 Sussex Square, W2, June 22.

Plight of Hong Kong Eurasians

From Mr Simon Ridley

Sir, Your leading article, "An inescapable duty" (June 11), will be endorsed by many who at some stage have lived and worked alongside the Eurasian community in Hong Kong.

British teachers, government servants, clergy and others can all testify to the special claim of this small group of people. Many share our blood, have been educated to the highest standard in our ways, speak our language better than most English people, and have always looked to this country as their own.

Hong Kong's Eurasians are among the Crown's most loyal subjects. In war they fought, and many died or suffered terribly, in our cause. In peace they have made an incalculable and diverse contribution to the life of the colony for well over a century. It would be monstrous to disown them now.

Australian obligations

From Lord Vinson

Sir, If the Australians intend to bill us for £40 million (report, June 19) to clean up radioactive contamination in the Maralinga desert caused by the development of the atomic bomb, I hope in turn that we will bill them for £40 million towards the development of that earlier bomb without which the last war could easily have been fought for a further two years, with the undoubted loss of the lives of many Australians and an untold economic cost to their economy.

Nobody doubts the contribution the Australians made to winning the last war in Europe — but neither should they underestimate our contribution to winning the war in the Pacific and the timely and effective contribution of the atomic bomb, which prevented any possible invasion of the Australian continent, quite apart from the millions of lives it probably saved through the rapid conclusion of hostilities.

Yours etc, VINSON, House of Lords, June 22.

Room with better view

From Mr J. A. Powell

Sir, I do not think Mr Frank Giles (letter, June 21) need worry that the Florentine boarding house in E. M. Forster's book, *A Room with a View*, has "changed utterly". In the book the cockney signora and her guests seem indeed installed on the north bank of the Arno, looking south; but the film apparently shows that they had all moved to the south bank of the Arno, looking north. Very sensible really: a better view.

Yours faithfully,

J. A. POWELL, Haresfield, Fullerton Road, Wherwell, nr Andover, Hampshire.

Object of desire

From Mr V. D. G. Miller

Sir, Oh, for a tea-bag that does not rocket to the surface and have to be poked about with a tea-spoon.

Yours faithfully,

V. D. G. MILLER, 5 Upper Wimpole Street, W1.

Initiative test

From Mr Lewis Hill

Sir, The problem of the work created for public institutions by information requests from "researchers" raised by Dr Bostock (letter, June 14) is a serious one. While letters such as "Dear Curator, I am studying art and am interested to know of any carvings you have in your museum" are amusing, other more specific requests which are ignorant of the constraints of the institution do make unnecessary demands on resources.

In our ethnographers' group we attempted to deal with this problem constructively by publishing in 1987 a booklet, *The Innocent Researcher and*

We may in the end be helpless to do much about the horrors of statelessness in the Balkans or other foreign lands, but our own people in Hong Kong are unquestionably our business, and their fate is in our home secretary's hands.

The correct and honourable solution is plain. As you rightly point out it creates no precedent because the situation is unique. And the numbers are insignificant. Given the protection of full British passports most will stay on in Hong Kong if they can. If some, or even all, are obliged to get out or choose to come here, we shall be fortunate to have them. No more than simple justice will have been done.

Yours faithfully, SIMON RIDLEY (Vicar of Christ Church, Kowloon, 1966-70), Prospect House, Wittersham, Tenterden, Kent, June 19.

Source of lacquer

From Mr Peter Philp

Sir, Mr Peter Lawrence (letter, June 15) is wrong to refer to shellac as the original source of lacquer. True lacquer, as originally used by the Chinese from the fourth century BC, was obtained from the sap of the tree *Rhus vernicifera*, indigenous to China and later introduced to Japan.

Shellac, a different and inferior product derived from a substance secreted by the insect *Coccus lacca*, indigenous to India, is the basis of various varnishes used from the early seventeenth century for European imitations of Chinese and Japanese lacquer that included the Italian *laccas* and the French *vernis Martin*. In England, *A Treatise of Japaning, Varnishing and Gilding* was published in 1688. The authors, Stalker and Parker, provided advice on the decoration of furniture with shellac, but did not recommend it as a suitable garnish/varnish for foodstuffs (report, June 7). Perhaps they understood its limitations better than we do.

Yours faithfully, PETER PHILP, 77 Kimberley Road, Cardiff.

Liberation march

From Professor Emeritus Douglas Johnson

Sir, Alan Hamilton, on the unveiling by the Queen Mother of the statue to General de Gaulle in Carlton Gardens, Westminster (report, June 24), writes that this ceremony honoured "the memory of a man whom the Americans allowed to lead the liberation march down the Champs-Élysées". A curious remark.

The American Major General Leonard T. Gerow, commanding the Fifth Corps, gave an order whereby General Leclerc and his divisions, which had liberated Paris, were not to take part in the celebratory parade of August 26, 1944.

Other American authorities told General de Gaulle that the parade was unwise and should not take place. De Gaulle, remembering all this, always said: "Naturally, I paid no attention."

Yours truly, DOUGLAS JOHNSON, 29 Rudall Crescent, Hampstead, NW3, June 24.

the Museum, by Linda Cheetham. It demonstrates how researchers can obtain information from museums without pain on either side.

The target is both the pupil and the teacher, and the observations are broadly applicable to requests to other institutions. It is still available at a price which enables it to be sent as a rapid response to such letters, and it ought to be sold at every museum bookshop.

Yours faithfully, LEWIS HILL (Editor, Museum Ethnographers' Group), University of Hull, Centre for South-East Asian Studies, Hull HU6 7RX, June 14.

Why ivory ban must remain

From Mr William Travers

Sir, Simon Jenkins ("Welcome back the hunter", June 19) bases his call for an end to the international ivory trade ban on out-of-date research contained in Raymond Bonner's book, *At the Hand of Man* — described in *Time* magazine as a "confused ramble".

The "goodies", according to Mr Jenkins and Mr Bonner, are the hunters, ex-poachers and elephant managers of southern Africa who between them have created an environment where elephants can flourish. The "baddies" are Western conservationists and corrupt eastern African countries.

Mr Jenkins should consider the following facts:

1. The elephant population across Africa fell from 1.3 million in 1979 to 600,000 in 1989.
2. The rate of decline just prior to the ivory ban in 1989 was estimated to be between 70,000 and 100,000 a year.
3. The ban was supported by delegates to Cites (Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species) with 76 votes in favour (10 African states included). There were 11 votes against (nine African states included).

Mr Jenkins wants to encourage sport hunting. Pick up an exotic hunting brochure and you can buy an elephant trophy package in a number of African countries. It costs thousands of dollars, affects relatively few elephants, is a pretty sickening concept but, vitally, it is not outlawed under Cites.

Sport hunting is determined by the individual policy of the African country involved and the domestic laws of any potential importing country. The ivory, skin, feet, ears — whatever little trinkets the hunter wants to take home as a memento — are classified as personal effects, not items in international trade.

Small-scale culls have continued to take place in several African states. The meat, skins and ivory are sold legally on the internal domestic market. Only when an attempt is made to export these items does that contravene Cites law.

Africa's elephants have undoubtedly benefited from the ivory ban, which has the backing of most African countries and the international community. The ban is likely to stay in place until the continent's elephant population has recovered.

Conservation groups continue to play a major role in funding elephant recovery programmes. Hunting is not an issue — the bloody ivory trade is.

Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM TRAVERS (Chairman), Elefriends, The Borne Free Foundation, Coldharbour, Dorking, Surrey, June 22.

Sporting chance

From Mr David Openshaw

Sir, All is not wrong with British sport (letters, June 19, 22, 24). In Australia in April the Great Britain and Ireland croquet team won the MacRobertson Shield for the world team championship by beating USA 9-0, Australia 6-3, New Zealand 6-2, and, in the final, New Zealand 17-3.

This result was achieved by a mixture of youthful confidence, gritty experience and dedicated preparation. Our play was also regarded as the most ambitious and exciting croquet ever seen at world level.

Yours sincerely,

DAVID OPENSHAW (Captain, Great Britain and Ireland Croquet Team), 45 Baring Road, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, June 24.

From Mr M. A. Gallagher

Sir, Mr Hugh Monro (letter, June 23) asks to whom we English can export wine now that we have lost at cricket to Australia, at football to Germany and USA, and at rugby to New Zealand. Why, to Scotland, Ireland and Wales — but we had better get on with it whilst we can still beat them at least at cricket.

Yours faithfully, M. GALLAGHER, Manor Cottage, Lower Street, Harnham, Salisbury, Wiltshire.

Slap of the tongue

From Mr Tarquin Olivier

Sir, Proper names of particular moment are sometimes adopted to fill a gap in the English tongue. "Boycon" is a crisp example. I suggest that "McEnroe" meaning "foul-mouthed and unsportsmanlike abuse directed at authority" would similarly enrich our language. To be "McEnroed" would mean to be wimpishly cowed by such odious behaviour.

The other obvious candidate is "Maasricht", again as noun or verb — as in a "complete Maasricht", or we have been skillfully "maasrichted". The occasions for its relevance seem sadly bound to spawn as potential definitions are limitless.

Yours etc, TARQUIN OLIVIER, Garrick Club, Garrick Street, WC2, June 23.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

OBITUARIES

RICHARD PARKER

Richard Anthony Parker, former Professor of Egyptology at Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, died on June 3 aged 67. He was born in Chicago on December 10, 1925.



RICHARD PARKER's outstanding contribution to the present-day knowledge of ancient Egyptian scientific achievements has long been universally recognised. In collaboration with his colleague at Brown University, the late Professor Otto Neugebauer, he produced a comprehensive publication in three large volumes entitled *Egyptian Astronomical Texts* (1960-69). Their scope covered lists of deities, planets, constellations and zodiacs, as well as star-clocks in some royal Ramesseum tombs, which date from the 12th century BC. Summarising his assessment of the contribution of the ancient Egyptians to astronomical knowledge, he said, in a discussion arranged in 1974 jointly by the Royal Society and the British Academy (of which he was a corresponding fellow): "To it [Egyptian astronomy] we may award the determination of the length of the year, the division of the day into 24 hours and the decan names in the zodiac".

Throughout his career, Parker worked on documents written in Demotic — the latest form of the Egyptian script — from which two of his most important publications were *A Vienna Demotic Papyrus on Eclipses and Lunar - Omnia* (1959) and *Demotic Mathematical Papyri* (1972). The Vienna papyrus was a late copy of what was originally two separate books written in the 6th century BC. The first book related to eclipses of the sun and of the moon, and mainly to the time of the year and the hour of the day or night at which they occurred for their omens, while the second book was confined to the moon, but without mentioning eclipses. The special interest of the

first book, in particular, is that it is entirely Babylonian in character. In his volume of mathematical papyri Parker first gives a summary of the material available and what it contains, followed by an assessment of the position of demotic texts in the history of Egyptian mathematics and a catalogue of the demotic terms for mathematical processes. Finally the individual problems are reproduced in facsimile, with transcriptions and commentary.

In view of his connection with both mathematics and astronomy, it is not surprising that he should have devoted much attention to chronological and calendrical systems (of which there were three in operation for much of Egypt's history). Apart from articles on the dating of specific events, he contributed, for the benefit of the layman, a chapter on this subject (as well as a chapter on mathematics and astronomy) to J. R. Harris's *The Legacy of Egypt* (2nd ed. Oxford, 1971). His *Calendars of Ancient Egypt*, in which he advanced the theory that a new month began on the first morning after the old crescent moon could no longer be seen, published in 1950, still remains a standard work.

A papyrus in the Brooklyn Museum, which he published in 1962, not only dealt with a very different subject from any of Parker's earlier work, but was written in a different

script. It bore a coloured scene of the god Amon-Re in a shrine carried on the shoulders of 20 priests. The accompanying text explains that a priest is petitioning the god to issue an oracle that his father will be elevated to a higher rank in the priesthood. It was written in so-called Abnormal Hieratic, a script first found in about 700 BC.

Parker took his first degree in 1930 at Dartmouth College, where one of his contemporaries was Nelson A. Rockefeller and at which in the 1960s he was to receive an award as the most distinguished alumnus of his group. His Egyptological studies were conducted at the University of Chicago, where, in 1938, he took his Ph.D. Subsequently he was mainly employed as a member of the epigraphical staff of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, recording the inscriptions and wall-reliefs of the temples at Luxor, of which he became the field-director in 1947-49.

In 1948 he was appointed to a new chair in Egyptology at Brown University, Providence (a constituent of the Ivy League), and he held the chair with great distinction until his retirement in 1972. The founder of the chair was a daughter of Charles Edwin Wilbour, and the size of her endowment was sufficient to enable Parker not only to have a staff of three (one of whom, Professor R. A. Caminos, eventually succeeded Parker in the chair), but also to have annually as a visiting professor an Egyptologist from Europe, who gave two courses of lectures, one to undergraduates and the other to graduates — among whom was generally Parker himself. His appointment to the university put Parker in daily contact with Otto Neugebauer, Professor of the History of Mathematics and the eminent authority on early scientific knowledge, thereby bringing great benefit to their field of study. In 1983 he was presented with a volume of studies, written and dedicated to him by Egyptologists in many countries, as a mark of their appreciation of his scholarship and their regard for him personally.

Modest by nature, Richard Parker had a warm and friendly personality and his circle of friends was wide and cosmopolitan. He was a devout Roman Catholic and was an avid reader of detective fiction. He took a keen interest in sports, seldom missing games of football, ice hockey or basketball in which Brown University was involved. On his visits to England for academic purposes, he always found time to watch county and international cricket.

He is survived by his wife, Gladys (née Burns), whom he married in 1934, and his daughter. His only son died in a tragic accident while still a schoolboy.

RAYMOND THUILIER



Thuilier, right, with Jacques Chirac in 1990

Raymond Thuilier, French restaurateur, died on June 20 aged 96. He was born at Chambéry in Savoy on January 11, 1897.

FOR a record 35 years Raymond Thuilier's restaurant, l'Oustau de Baumanière, in the village of Les Baux-de-Provence, held the Michelin guide's top three-star rating. The dishes he served — an unusual mixture of country cooking and haute cuisine — were universally regarded as magnificent. Egon Ronay dates his conversion to enjoyment of pigeon — "not a bird I had previously much liked for food" — to the time of his first visit. "Prepared with a lot of oil, it was not spectacular to look at, but it was wonderful to taste."

As a mecca for gourmets and celebrities l'Oustau de Baumanière's tables were graced, over the years, by generations of royalty, politicians, artists and film stars and assorted jet-setters. The Queen, the French presidents de Gaulle and Pompidou, the American president Dwight Eisenhower, the Shah of Iran, Charles Chaplin and Picasso were among the most famous diners who feasted on its specialties, which included roast leg of Provençal lamb en croûte and fillers of red mullet with basil.

The patron habitually greeted his customers — famous and unknown alike — while half-sitting on the edge of a table positioned in the garden just outside the restaurant. A tall, slim figure with a balding head and attired in a chef's white apron, Thuilier created all his customers as if they were celebrities but in fact, for most of them, he was the real star.

Yet Raymond Thuilier began his working life as an insurance salesman and spent twenty years in that profession. The son of a railway worker, he had attended law school in Lyon and served as a sapper in the first world war. He was a self-taught chef and reached the age of 49 before he managed to get out of the metropolitan rat-race and begin a new life as a restaurateur.

Searching at the end of the second world war for suitable premises in which to fulfil his dream, he came across a derelict sheep farm below the abandoned village of Les Baux and proceeded to transform it into a temple of good food. Within two years he had gained his first Michelin star and six years later had acquired the three which he retained until his retirement in 1987, in the process turning the village of Les Baux into one of southern France's major tourist attractions.

During his search for a suitable venue for his restaurant Thuilier had enlisted the assistance of a local official, whose help may have been as invaluable in ensuring the restaurant's international reputation, as the expertise of the proprietor: his name was Georges Pompidou.

The success of the restaurant revived the life of the village and the locals repaid Thuilier by electing him mayor in 1971, a post he retained until his death. He gave up the active running of his restaurant in 1977, handing over the reins to his grandson, Jean-André Charial.

Raymond Thuilier was a member of the Legion of Honour. His wife predeceased him and he is survived by his daughter.

LADY YOUNG OF DARTINGTON

Sasha Young (Lady Young of Dartington), broadcaster, novelist and artist, died at home on June 22 aged 62. She was born on January 25, 1931.

AS ONE of the BBC's first women producers, Sasha Young brought the poems of Ted Hughes and Philip Larkin to a Radio Three audience years before they became household names. She was also instrumental in encouraging Jean Rhys to resume her writing career in the 1950s when she chose one of her short stories to be broadcast.

As Sasha Moorsom she published two novels, the first of which, *The Lavender Trip*, won two first novel awards in 1976. Her own most recent discovery among writers was Mary Sietmann who, after being urged by Sasha to continue with her writing, published her first novel, *Jumping the Queue*, under the name Mary Wesley.

She met her husband, now Lord Young of Dartington, in 1958 when she thought his recently-published book, *Family and Kinship in East London*, would make a good subject for a radio programme. Two years later they were married and, though she abandoned her career at the BBC, she remained an energetic contributor to the arts, spending as much time nurturing the talents of others as developing her own.

She was born at Ransdean End, Hampshire, the daughter of Raisy and Anna Moorsom. She was brought up in a literary atmosphere, with Lytton Strachey, Goldsworthy Lowes Dickinson and Arthur Waley being frequent visitors to the family home. During the war she was

educated in South Africa, returning to England in 1946 to go to Bedales. She went up to Cambridge in 1950 where she became a celebrated beauty. She was described by the *News Chronicle* as "a study of undergraduate elegance" and by *The Star* as "Cambridge University's Zuleika Dobson".

She joined the Amateur Dramatic Club in her first term where directors like Peter Hall and John Barton eagerly competed for her talents. She made a particularly captivating Viola in *Twelfth Night*, managing to "pull the stage into the palm of her hand", according to *Varsity*, no mean feat given Mark Bowes' set designs. The ADC's production of *The Comedy of Errors* was sufficiently good to run for a brief time in London where it attracted the attention of *The Times*. "Miss Sasha Moorsom makes a delicious mix of Luciana", wrote the theatre critic. In spite of all this activity she managed to take a double first in English.

After leaving the BBC she combined raising two children with editing the education magazine, *Where?*, and writing a regular column for *The Listener*. Her novel *The Lavender Trip* was a love story set in Provence, a part of the world she was intimately familiar with having spent summers there all her life. It won two first novel awards, from the *Yorkshire Post* and the *Authors Club*, and was selected by the New Fiction Society.

In 1983 she published a second novel, *In The Shadow of the Paradise Tree*, a satirical account of life among expatriates at an East African university based on her experience working for the National Extension College with her husband in Nigeria.

Writing was far from her only talent. She was an accomplished painter, photographer and sculptor, exhibiting and selling to a large group of enthusiasts. She was also a prodigious organiser. She set up the Lauderdale House arts centre in Highgate, raising hundreds of thousands of pounds to renovate the burnt-out building, and helped establish the Open College of the Arts, now part of the Open University. Perhaps the greatest tribute to her organising skills, as well as her generosity, was the concert she organised for her friend the composer Anthony Scott less than four weeks before she died, in spite of being in the

final stages of cancer, she managed to attend the concert in her wheelchair.

Towards the end of her life she developed a keen interest in Buddhism, which she was introduced to by her daughter Sophie, a Buddhist. This was unquestionably a source of great comfort to her in her last months when Sophie, who looked after her throughout, rarely left her side.

Among all her other talents, Sasha Young was also a poet, and had poems published in *The Observer* and *The New Statesman*.

Sasha Young is survived by her husband Michael, her daughter Sophie and son Toby.



PATRICK CROSSE

Andrew Patrick Crosse, Reuters correspondent and executive, died on June 17 aged 76. He was born in South Africa on December 3, 1916.



PATRICK CROSSE master-minded Reuters expansion in the newly independent African countries in the 1950s and 1960s. After a distinguished career as a foreign correspondent his administrative abilities led successive general managers to use him in the Middle East and then Africa, first from his base in Rome and then in London. When he joined the company, Reuters was still the agency of the Empire, but he realised that the future lay with the emerging countries in both English and French-speaking Africa. He would provide plenty of news and, he hoped, supporting revenue from subscriptions.

Crosse was a caring and inspiring leader of young journalists. Like Ian Fleming at *The Sunday Times* and Sid Mason also at Reuters, he looked after his foreign correspondents and managers, sympathetic to their problems and understanding their eccentricities. In return they were fiercely loyal and utterly devoted to him.

After coming to England to be educated at Downside, Crosse joined his uncle William Moloney, an old Reuter stalwart, in India in 1935. He showed that it was ability, not family patronage, that made him a good prospect for the agency, and was sent to London to complete his training. He was soon thought worthy of foreign assignments and was one of the team in Prague at the time of the 1938 Munich crisis.

He returned to India in 1939 to work in the Bombay office. Early in 1940 he was assigned to Singapore when the local manager was away. It was here he showed that his administrative talents matched his journalistic ability. Recognition of the importance of this dual role was something he was always to instil into a generation of aspiring journalists. His success could be seen in their later achievements in Reuters, newspapers and broadcasting.

But Crosse was unhappy at being away from the action and in June 1940 wrote to London saying he wanted to return to Britain to join up. "A bloke of my age can't go on sitting at a desk trying to screw arse out of newspapers and rope in new subscribers while everything is being blown to bits," Reuters sensibly realised that there was an

ideal war correspondent. He was sent to the Middle East and early in 1943 during the fighting in Libya he was captured. A former Reuter colleague Edward Ward, by then with the BBC, was taken at the same time. Crosse spent three years as a prisoner-of-war in Italy, during which time he helped run a small newspaper in the camp.

His first postwar assignment was to Brussels. But in 1946 a lung weakness, the result of his time as a prisoner, was diagnosed. He spent some months at a sanatorium in Switzerland and then, completely recovered, took over the Reuter Geneva office. From there he was posted to Rome as chief correspondent in 1949. He married Jenny Nicholson, a fellow journalist, in 1952, and their home in the ancient Torre del Grillo was a magnet to visiting friends from all over the world and, not least, for the trainees who were doing a spell in the Rome office.

In 1963 he was appointed a deputy general manager and from 1966 was in charge of operations in Latin America, always a difficult area for Reuters. In 1972 he decided to retire at only 55 because he felt he had done all he could for the modern Reuters. For the next five years he was assistant secretary-general of the International Planned Parenthood Federation, with particular responsibility for public affairs and information.

Crosse, an intensely private man, made a huge number of friends throughout the world. They were attracted by his cultured, elegant, tall gentleman with a whimsical sense of humour. It helped that he was fluent in French, Italian and Spanish. Jenny's sudden death in 1964 was a great blow, but his later years were sustained by a close circle of friends.

ARTHUR ALEXANDER

Arthur B. Alexander Jr, American songwriter and singer, died of respiratory and heart failure in Nashville, Tennessee, on June 9 aged 53.



BOTH the Beatles and the Rolling Stones were attracted to the songs composed by Arthur Alexander Jr in the early 1960s. And when they were given their first chance to record, both groups used numbers he had written. The Beatles chose "Anna" and the Stones "You Better Move On".

The latter number, recorded by Alexander at the Muscle Shoals studio, Alabama, which he had helped to build in what had been a tobacco barn, spawned what became known in the pop world as "Muscle Shoals sound". Alexander wrote soul songs which effectively mixed elements of rock, soul, country and blues music. "You Better Move On" was his first success and reached number 24 in the American hit parade.

A former hotel bellhop boy, Alexander was soon sharing the stage with leading exponents of soul music including

Ben E. King, Jackie Wilson, and Solomon Burke. By the end of the decade, however, his flow of hit tunes had dried up, his showbusiness career had collapsed and he was earning a living by driving a bus in Cleveland. He recently recorded a new album *Lonely Just Like Me* — his first in 21 years — but said that if it failed to take-off, it would not worry him as he was perfectly content driving a bus. He had been doing so for 12 years, he said, "and I kind of like what I do."

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Sanity drives the speculators away

The crazy days when you could pay £840,000 for an ageing Jag are long gone as sanity returns to the market for collectors' cars. Kevin Eason reports

The age of the enthusiast is back as sanity returns to the beleaguered classic car market. Owners of classic cars as investments over the past three years would have been better off taking a ride on Blackpool's Big Dipper: they would have felt just as queasy but at least it would be cheap and over quickly.

It has been a nightmare for thousands who ploughed their money into cars in the belief that they were investing in something that would give them pleasure as well as a nest egg.

The good news is that the market is finally strengthening after the black days of depression. Even better news is that the speculators responsible for driving up prices to ridiculously inflated levels at the end of the 1980s have, it must be hoped, been blown out of the market for good.

Those who bought high and hoped for even higher to come have probably seen their cars repossessed by now, worth little more than a heap of junk as banks demand their money back.

Prices are not going to return to 1980s heights for a long time and those who bought at the peak of the boom will find themselves in the same position as house buyers suffering the misery of negative equity on homes.

The turning point probably came



The Minor classic Chris Street's firm charges about £18,000 for the uprated "modern Moggy"

in February 1990 when analysts saw prices drop faster than John Major's popularity, at about 1 per cent a month.

Privately, auctioneers are pleased that the days of rampant speculation are over. It was easy to sell cars at absurd prices, but the auctioneers also had to deal with disgruntled owners unable to get rid of cars when they wanted to cut their losses.

In February 1990, one buyer needed £840,000 to buy a classic C-Type Jaguar. Those cars are now going for between £280,000 and £320,000. An Aston Martin DB5 that fetched £100,000 at a sale in 1989 held by ADT, Britain's biggest auction house, was worth only £35,000 this year.

That may be a big drop but it compares well with the £20,000 to £25,000 the car was selling at in October, 1988, before the boom got out of control.

In October, 1989, at an auction run by another house, the hammer came down on a Ferrari 275GTB — one of the glamour cars of the auction houses in the years of the yuppie investors — at £500,000. By December, 1990, the price had slumped to £117,000.

This year, the price had come back to £150,000 and signs at recent sales are that prices again prevail, opening the doors to genuine enthusiasts and collectors who

want to buy at sensible and affordable prices.

More than 1,800 people packed into a sale run by ADT this week at its headquarters at Blackbushe, Hampshire, underlining the signs of revival.

Peter Card, ADT's classic car specialist, says: "We are witnessing the return of the real collector."

"We enjoy dealing with people who have known and who understand the cars, what they want, and who offer reasonable prices. In 1989, all that changed and we got into a situation where prices were rocketing and collectors simply could not keep up."

Simon Kidson, at Coys of Kensington, found the same problem. A crush of expectant buyers wanting cars that would immediately start rising in value instead of becoming possessions to savour and enjoy.

"Common sense is returning," he said. "There was a point at which cars were being seen purely as investments and so many people were coming into the market that prices were really taking off."

There is no doubt that the car manufacturers will also be glad to see the speculators out and the collectors back in favour.

A situation in which cars were changing hands at up to £500,000 could not last and did little to help the long-term image of manufacturers. The makers have suffered as investors hoping to make a quick and easy profit dived into queues for new supercars, then decided

they could not afford to speculate, and pulled out at the last minute. The result was chaos for manufacturers and the loss to enthusiasts of the chance to buy.

As investments, the evidence seems to be that cars will always be solid rather than spectacular.

But the fascination with old models will be there so long as cars retain their individual identity and shape, no matter how humble.

Take the Morris Minor. It was a runabout condemned by Lord Nuffield, formerly William Morris, as a "poached egg" for £1.5 million were sold and the car simply refused to die.

Now a company in Somerset is reviving the model and charging about £18,000 for the "modern Moggy". CS Autoclassics takes conventional two-door Minors and refurbishes them as new cars with an uprated suspension and braking system and choice of engine that can include the Rover K-series, now fitted to Rover Metros, complete with catalytic converter to meet exhaust emission regulations.

Chris Street, proprietor of the firm at Shepton Mallet, says the Minor refuses to die because it is such an interesting car.

"We can refit them with leather interiors and hi-fi systems and have discovered that professional people particularly like them for their style," he says. "And that sort of style, the style of a classic, will always be popular with enthusiasts."

● The Coys International Historic Festival, featuring dozens of classic cars, will be held at the Silverstone race track, Northamptonshire on July 24 and 25.

ROADWISE

Executive offers

CITROEN is turning up the heat in the rivalry among manufacturers to find executive-car buyers. The company has scrapped the 1992 surcharge on buying models with automatic gearboxes up to the end of August. The offer includes saloons and estates.

The VW Skoda
IT MAY be costing billions, but the fortunes of Skoda are turning. Skoda, now in the hands of Volkswagen of Germany, had a 30 per cent increase in May sales of its Favorit model, possibly as a result of one of its biggest advertising campaigns. VW is spending £3 billion on bringing Skoda into the fold.

Volvo for tea
VOLVO, the Swedish motor giant, is not only involved in making cars. It makes beer, jam, preserves, herring, caviar and hot-dogs, and in a joint venture with the Swedish government, it makes pharmaceuticals.

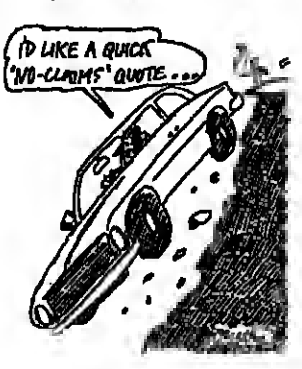
And you thought they worried only about making cars big enough to carry a wardrobe and 17 children to and from school five days a week.

Quote me

THE trail to find cheaper insurance is made a little easier by a new telephone broking service. Telesure claims to be the first "over-the-phone" broker covering 50 schemes from 16 insurers.

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The car makers' sale or return offer to dissatisfied buyers seems to be designed for abuse — but nobody is taking advantage

There seemed every chance that car companies would repeat the great Hoover blunder as they rushed to be first to offer sale or return schemes. But executives at Rover, Ford and Vauxhall need not have worried, according to reports coming in after the first three weeks of their schemes, Kevin Eason writes.

Although the big three will sell, between them, about 60,000 cars in June, fewer than 100 have so far been brought back on the sale or return ticket.

Ford has had the most returns, possibly because its scheme was backdated for cars with persistent faults that can be changed within a

year of sale. The company says it has exchanged 46 cars that had been into the dealers on three or more occasions to have faults rectified.

Another 43 came back on the 30-day exchange scheme, in which customers can swap their new car for a different model.

Rover and Vauxhall have had even fewer problems. Rover says it has had only six cars returned — four for other models and two for refunds, one of those a car bought

by The Sunday Times simply to test whether the company would stick to its word and hand the money back to a dissatisfied customer.

Vauxhall is dealing with two cases but the company is not expecting any further problems. Its Network Q used car scheme has been operating a 14-day money-back scheme and in 18 months 100,000 cars have been sold and only 300 have come back.

The key to the success of the schemes is to provide cars so

reliable that customers do not come back to showrooms by the busload wanting their money or another car. The last thing Ford wants is dozens of cars flooding into the auctions, depressing values and annoying another section of its buying public.

There was no way of testing in advance whether sale or return would work. Marks & Spencer has done it for years, but exchanging a pink sweater for a blue one is nothing like handling £10,000

worth of motor car that starts to lose value as soon it leaves the showroom.

The scope for cornering car companies seems boundless. What is to stop anyone buying a new Rover 800, taking it on holiday for a week, then returning to the showroom and demanding their money back? Nothing, apparently, except that British car buyers seem to be honest.

Dennis Chick, at Rover, says: "There will always be one wise guy,

but generally people do not take advantage. Buying a car is a very serious and expensive business."

"They have the reassurance now that they can correct a wrong purchase decision. Most people, however, have thought long and hard before they go to a showroom and they do not want to make bogus purchases for the sake of the sale or return deal."

That reassurance should be brought to the attention of the European Community. British buyers are now the only ones in Europe to enjoy the security of the scheme. Perhaps it is time to oblige continental car makers to follow the British example.

Trust the British to be honest

House of Lords

Enquiry into legality of accused's presence

Regina v Horsfield Road Magistrates' Court, Ex parte Bennett

Before Lord Griffiths, Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Oliver of Aylmerton, Lord Lowry and Lord Slynn of Hadley

[Speeches June 24]

Where through extradition procedures process of law was available to bring an accused back to the United Kingdom but he had been forcibly brought within the jurisdiction disregarding those procedures and the police, prosecuting or other executive authorities had been a knowing party, the courts would refuse to try the accused.

Thus the High Court, in the exercise of its supervisory jurisdiction, had power to enquire into the circumstances by which a person had been brought within the jurisdiction.

Where a serious question arose about the deliberate abuse of extradition procedures a magistrate should allow an adjournment so that an application could be made to the Divisional Court which was the proper forum.

The House of Lords held, Lord Oliver dissenting in part, in allowing an appeal by the defendant, Mr Paul James Bennett, from an order of the Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Woolf and Mr Justice Fitt) (The Times September 1, 1992) whereby Mr Bennett's application for judicial review of decisions of the Horsfield Road Magistrates' Court was dismissed.

The Divisional Court, on preliminary issue, whether the English courts had jurisdiction to enquire into the circumstances under which a person had been brought within the jurisdiction and whether the courts could prevent his trial proceeding. The court decided that there was no jurisdiction and certified, under section 1(2) of the Administration of Justice Act 1960 that a point of law of general public importance was involved, namely:

Whether in the exercise of its supervisory jurisdiction the court has power to enquire into the circumstances by which a person has been brought within the jurisdiction and if so what remedy is available, if any, to prevent his trial where that person has been lawfully arrested within the jurisdiction for a crime committed within the jurisdiction. If such jurisdiction existed the question arose as to the appropriate court to exercise it.

Mr Alan Newman, QC and Mr Brian Jubb, for Mr Bennett; Mr Colin Nicholls, QC and Mr Robert Fischel, for the Crown.

LORD GRIFFITHS said that Mr Bennett was a New Zealand citizen and was wanted for criminal offences which he was alleged, he committed in connection with the purchase of a helicopter in this country in 1989. The essence of the case against him was that he raised the finance to purchase the helicopter by a series of false

pretences and had defaulted on the repayments.

The English police eventually traced him and the helicopter to the UK and the Republic of South Africa. The police, after consulting with the Crown Prosecution Service, decided not to request Mr Bennett's return through extradition process.

There were no formal extradition provisions in force between the UK and the Republic of South Africa. Special extradition arrangements could be made under section 15 of the Extradition Act 1989.

It was Mr Bennett's case that, having taken their decision, the English police colluded with the South African police to have him arrested in South Africa and forcibly returned to this country against his will. The English police denied that they were in any way involved with the South African police in returning Mr Bennett.

It was not for their Lordships to pass judgment on where the truth lay at this stage of the proceedings, but for the purpose of testing the respondents' submissions it had to be assumed that the English police took a deliberate decision not to pursue extradition procedures but to persuade the South African police to arrest and forcibly return Mr Bennett to the United Kingdom on the pretext of deporting him to New Zealand via Heathrow so that he could be arrested at Heathrow and tried for the offences.

The respondents also relied on the United States authorities in the case of *United States v Alvarez-Machain* (1992) 119 L Ed 2d 441 and *Ker v Illinois* (1986) 119 US 436.

The respondents also cited two Canadian cases decided at the turn of the century: *R v Whitehead* (1904) 8 Can Cr Cas 478 and *R v Walton* (1905) 10 Can Cr Cas 269 which showed that the Canadian courts followed the English and American courts accepting jurisdiction in criminal cases regardless of the circumstances in which the accused was brought within the jurisdiction of the court; see also New Zealand decisions, *Moewaa v Department of Labour* (1980) 1 NZLR 464 and *R v Harley*.

Counsel for Mr Bennett contended for a wider interpretation of the court's jurisdiction to prevent an abuse of process and relied particularly on the judgment of Mr Justice Woodhouse in *R v Harley*, the powerful dissent of the minority in *United States v Alvarez-Machain* and the decision of the South African Court of Appeal in *S v Ebrahim* (1991) 2 SA 533.

In the present case there was no suggestion that Mr Bennett could not have a fair trial, nor could it be suggested that it would have been

unfair to try him if he had been returned to this country through extradition procedures.

If the court was to have the power to interfere with the prosecution in the present circumstances it must be because the judiciary accepted a responsibility for the maintenance of the rule of law that embraced a willingness to exercise executive action and to refuse to countenance behaviour that threatened either basic human rights or the rule of law.

There was no doubt that the judiciary should accept that responsibility in the field of criminal law. The great growth of administrative law during the latter half of this century had occurred because of the recognition by the judiciary and Parliament alike that it was the function of the High Court to ensure that executive action was exercised responsibly and as Parliament intended.

So also should it be in the field of criminal law and if it came to the attention of the court that there had been a serious abuse of power it should express its disapproval by refusing to act on it.

It should now be declared that where process of law was available to return an accused to this country through extradition procedures the courts here would refuse to try him if he had been forcibly brought within the jurisdiction in disregard of those procedures by a process to which the police of this country, prosecuting or other executive authorities had been a knowing party.

The question then arose as to the extent to which the court should exercise its power to refuse to try or commit a case on the ground that it would be an abuse of process to do so: *Mills v Cooper* (1967) 2 QB 459; *R v Canterbury and St Augustine Justices, Ex parte Christie* (1952) QB 398 and *R v Telford Justices, Ex parte Batham* (1991) 2 QB 78.

However, in the case of magistrates that power should be strictly confined to matters directly affecting the fairness of the trial of the particular accused with whom they were dealing, such as delay or unfair manipulation of court procedures.

The wider responsibility for

Law Report June 25 1993

Enquiry into legality of accused's presence

Regina v Gwynedd County Council, Ex parte W

The court had no jurisdiction to consider an application for judicial review of a headmaster's letter relating to the school's policy for teaching in the medium of the Welsh language. No decision had been made as far as the applicant was concerned.

The Queen's Bench Divisional

upholding the rule of law must be that of the High Court and, if a serious question arose as to the deliberate abuse of extradition procedures a magistrate should allow an adjournment so that an application could be made to the Divisional Court which was the proper forum in which such a decision should be taken.

The answer to the certified question would be: The High Court in the exercise of its supervisory jurisdiction had power to enquire into the circumstances by which a person had been brought within the jurisdiction and if satisfied that it was in disregard of extradition procedures it might stay the prosecution and order the release of the accused.

LORD OLIVER, dissenting on the jurisdiction of the court, said that a citizen whose rights had been infringed by unlawful or over-enthusiastic action on the part of an executive authority had no remedy by way of recourse to the courts in civil proceedings.

The question raised was whether, in addition to such remedies as might be available in civil proceedings, the court should assume the duty of overseeing, controlling and punishing an abuse of executive power leading up to properly instituted criminal proceedings not by means of the conventional remedies invoked at the instance of the person claiming to have been injured by such abuse but by restraining or further prosecution of those proceedings.

The results of the assumption of such a jurisdiction were threefold; and they were surprising:

First, the trial put in train by a charge which had been properly laid would not take place and the person charged, if guilty, would escape a just punishment.

Second, the civil remedies available to that person would remain enforceable.

Third, the public interest in the prosecution and punishment of crime would have been defeated not by a necessary process of penalising those responsible for executive abuse but simply for the purpose of manifesting judicial disapproval.

Lord Bridge and Lord Lowry delivered speeches concurring with Lord Griffiths and Lord Slynn agreed.

Solicitors: Hallman Blackburn Gittings & Nott; Crown Prosecution Service, Headquarters.

Letter not a decision

Regina v Gwynedd County Council, Ex parte W

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The Queen's Bench Divisional

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Queen's Bench Divisional Court

Failure to consult but no remedy appropriate

Regina v The Lord Chancellor, Ex parte The Law Society

Before Lord Justice Neill and Mr Justice Mann

[Judgment June 21]

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for the purpose of establishing the framework.

The reference in section 34(1) to the consent of the Treasury being necessary to the making of regulations underlined the fact that Parliament intended that the framework should take account of the public funds available from time to time. The regulations had not therefore been made outside the powers conferred on the Lord Chancellor under section 34.

The Law Society contended that the regulations were *ultra vires* and unlawful in that they frustrated rather than promoted the purposes of the 1988 Act.

Mr Bellotti made, *inter alia*, the following further submissions:

The regulations contravened fundamental constitutional principles by making less favourable provision for green form legal aid in England and Wales than the provisions in Scotland and therefore contravened the provisions of article III of the Union with Scotland Act 1706.

The regulations, which made fundamental changes to the scope of legal aid, were made without proper consultation at a time when the regulations were still at a formative stage.

There had been no consultation before 1992 and thereafter the Law Society were given inadequate opportunity to put forward counter proposals; no explanation had been given to the Law Society of the basis on which the Lord Chancellor's Department's figures had been calculated. There was a statutory duty to consult the Law Society in respect of two of the regulations and that in relation to all the regulations the Law Society had a legitimate expectation that they would be consulted.

The Lord Chancellor contended that article III of the 1706 Act could not fetter the powers of a later Parliament to make such powers as it thought fit in relation to the provision of rights for people living in different parts of the United Kingdom.

In his Lordship's judgment, it was not necessary to decide whether article III might have imposed a fetter on those responsible for secondary legislation. It was sufficient to approach the matter on the narrower ground that Parliament had made different provision for legal aid in Scotland from that made for England and Wales and the discretion conferred under both the 1988 Act and the 1986 Act entitled the maker to make such regulations as appeared to him to be necessary or desirable for giving effect to the relevant Act.

Dealing with the submission on consultation, his Lordship recognised that a failure to consult properly might in certain circumstances amount to a procedural impropriety which would invalidate a decision taken without such consultation.

It was clear that the Lord Chancellor was empowered by section 34(1) of the Act to make such regulations as appeared to him to be necessary or desirable

The Lord Chancellor contended, *inter alia*, that except as provided by statute in section 34(1) of the 1988 Act that Law Society had no right to be consulted. The proposals put forward by the Law Society had been given careful consideration but had not met the financial savings targets which were required and that in any event it was clear that any more detailed consultation would not have led to a different result because there was no suggestion that the savings suggested by the Law Society would meet those required.

His Lordship said that having regard to the part which the Law Society had played in the development of legal aid since 1949, the effect that the changes would have on the scheme as a whole as well as on members of the Law Society, the assurance which had been given in relation to the green form scheme and the close co-operation which the Law Society had offered to try to control the rise of expenditure the Law Society had a legitimate expectation to be consulted.

Procedural impropriety, however, had to be looked at in the light of the particular circumstances in which the relevant decision was made (CCSU v Minister for the Civil Service [1985] AC 394). His Lordship considered that there were interferences which could be drawn from the evidence in the case as to the urgent background against which the regulations were put forward and concluded that there had been no procedural impropriety nor were the Law Society's claims that the announcement of the proposals an opportunity for consultation which they could legitimately have expected in the circumstances.

Even if that conclusion were wrong and there was a duty to consult the Law Society before the announcement of the proposals and the consultation which had subsequently taken place had been flawed, there was no sufficient basis on which the court could hold that the regulations should be declared invalid.

In the circumstances it would be wrong for the court to quash an existing decision and declare that a further decision should be reached only after proper consultation.

MR JUSTICE MANTLE, concurring, said there was a duty to consult once it became apparent that economies of some kind would have to be made even though the precise financial constraints were unknown. There was a duty to consult on the parts of the legal aid scheme which were to be affected and there was time in which to have done so.

Having said that, his Lordship agreed that it would be wrong to quash the regulations.

Solicitors: Bindman & Partners; Treasury Solicitor.

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The New York Times

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CBI

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BOCK ON TOP

Dieter Bock has steered Lufthansa successfully back from the brink, and half-year figures reveal profits back on a growth track
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BANK HIT

Shedding 1,100 jobs and further provisions for bad debts have cost TSB dearly, making a big dent in its first-half profits
Page 25

THE POUND

US \$ 1.4885 (-0.0073)
German mark 2.5133 (-0.0173)
Exchange index 79.4 (+0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 2894.7 (-6.0)
Dow Jones 3476.77 (+3.93)
Nikkei Avg 19665.07 (+192.55)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 0%
3-month interbank 5 1/8%
US Federal Funds 3%
3-month Treas Bill 3.09-3.07%
Long Bond 8.74%

CURRENCIES

New York: London: £\$ 1.4885 £\$ 2.5133
\$DM 1.7115 \$DM 2.5119
\$Swfr 1.5185 \$Swfr 2.2232
\$Fr 5.7560 \$Fr 8.4510
\$Yen 109.08 \$Yen 160.22
\$SDR 1.0812 \$ECU 1.2800
London Foreign market close

GOLD

London Fixing (\$): AM 374.10 PM 373.80
Close 373.30-373.80
New York: Comex 373.15-373.65

RETAIL PRICES

RPI 141.1 May (1.3%)
* Denotes midday trading price

Babcock sees a future for yard

By Ross Tremain
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BABCOCK International last night pledged to renew its commitment to the Rosyth Royal Dockyard after the government guaranteed work for the yard for 12 years.

Executives from the company and Thorn EMI, its partner in Babcock Thorn, the Rosyth management company, said they were heartened by a ministerial promise to help Rosyth become a key surface ship refit yard.

Erik Porter, Babcock finance director, said a guarantee of work on 18 major warships, over half of the total available, including both aircraft carriers "virtually all" Type 42 destroyers and all Hunt class minesweepers was "more hopeful than I thought it would be". He said that Babcock would now be "very keen" to bid again to run the yard when its management contract expires in 1995 or 1996. "I hope we will be the preferred bidder," he said.

Malcolm Rifkind, the defence secretary, said the workforce at Rosyth was likely to be reduced by about 450 to 3,700. Mr Porter said the preferential work allocation by the government should be sufficient to help the yard through a difficult period of transition, as nuclear submarine refit work gave way to refurbishment of large surface ships. He was confident the workforce and the management had the flexibility and the skill to adapt.

In the longer term, he believed Rosyth would be as well placed as any yard to win refit work by competitive tender once the flow of guaranteed business tails off.

Work on nuclear submarines already in the yard is likely to continue until 1996, and Rosyth is likely to continue to compete to refurbish the smaller hunter-killer nuclear submarines even after that.

Babcock Thorn executives have already begun to seek uses for the massive hole created by the MoD's aborted attempt to develop Trident refit facilities at Rosyth.

During Project RDS7 the MoD spent £120 million on preparing the foundations for a dedicated covered dock for Trident refits at Rosyth, with a neighbouring dock for smaller nuclear submarines.

This hole alongside the main dock is 100ft deep, 550ft long and 500ft wide. It was to have been able to withstand a major earthquake. Now Rosyth managers believe the best use for it may be to entomb decommissioned nuclear submarines in concrete. If they can't refit them, the reasoning goes, at least they can bury them.

Devonport order, page 1



ONEY GOES DOWN THE GREAT HOLE OF ROSYTH

Bonn and Paris fall out over rate cuts

By Janet Bush
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

Growing tension between France and Germany exploded into a public clash after Bonn withdrew from talks that Paris said were about cutting interest rates

FRANCE and Germany, the twin pillars of closer European economic co-operation, came to blows yesterday, with Germany refusing to attend a key meeting in Paris today after the French finance minister apparently tried, in public, to bounce its ally into co-ordinated interest rate cuts.

The French minister's remarks drew a quick cancellation from Bonn as financial markets sold an already vulnerable mark heavily, a turn of events that has probably delayed the next German interest rate cut. The meeting, a routine gathering of the Franco-German economic council,



Waigel: 'busy schedule'

was to have been attended by the French and German finance ministers and leading representatives from the two countries' central banks.

But Bonn postponed the meeting after Edmond Alphandery, France's finance minister, said that he had invited Theo Waigel, Germany's finance minister, and Helmut Schlesinger, Bundesbank president, to Paris and gave the impression that they were coming specifically to talk about co-ordinated interest rate cuts. He was quoted as saying: "The Germans must speed up their rate cuts."

The German government said that the meeting had been postponed because of Herr Waigel's busy schedule. He is designing a package of cuts to the budget deficit. However, there was widespread suspicion in the financial markets that the Germans decided not to attend because of M Alphandery's intervention.

His statement sent currency futures markets soaring everywhere in Europe outside Germany and added to pressure on the mark, already a source of discomfort within the Bundesbank.

The mark dropped to a post-war low against the yen of Y63.45, remarkable because the yen has been vulnerable to political uncertainty after forced Japanese elections were called. The dollar climbed another two pence against the mark to DM1.7110. Even sterling, suffering from political turmoil as another government minister resigned, gained to end nearly two pence higher at DM2.5133.

The mark failed to recover much even after Bonn said it was not going to the meeting, as markets took the view that the Germans are still under intense pressure to cut rates. M Alphandery's remarks made it virtually impossible for the Germans to go ahead with the talks because they provoked intense speculation in the financial markets. In addition, the Bundesbank does not want to be seen to be reacting to pressure from other governments on interest rate policy. The German finance ministry made it clear

yesterday, before it decided to cancel, that it would not offer concrete agreements on rates.

Thomas Mayer, of Goldman Sachs in Frankfurt, quoted Wim Duisenberg, head of the Dutch central bank, who likened the Bundesbank to whipped cream: "The tougher you beat it the harder it gets".

France is among many others pressing Germany to cut its rates and so create scope for lower rates around Europe and a recovery from recession.

Attali expected to quit European Bank soon

By Patricia Tehan, Banking Correspondent

THE resignation of Jacques Attali, president of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, now looks almost inevitable as the bank's top officials prepare for what is likely to be a stormy meeting of the board on Monday.

M Attali is believed to have lost support from most of his colleagues at the bank over a reorganisation plan and the uproar over the cost of refurbishing its London headquarters. An EBRD audit committee is due to report its findings on the spending on July 15, but M Attali's resignation is now expected before the meeting.

An insider said any replacement for M Attali is likely to

come from outside the bank. But the appointment will be a difficult one, with each of the bank's G7 shareholders lobbying to put their man in the job.

The support from the G7 countries for the Attali-backed plan to reorganise the bank now appears to be waning. The plan is due to be discussed at a G7 meeting in Tokyo on July 7, when ministers will also see an advance copy of the audit committee report, but there is some speculation that Mr Attali will go before then.

The plan would have entailed a merger of the bank's merchant and development banking arms as well as a new head of operations.

A Midlander's suspicion of the City

Kenneth Clarke is generally regarded as a learner-Chancellor. If he has any deep thoughts about economics or finance, he has kept them to himself. He is too intelligent for the total comfort of his leading officials, who traditionally like a minister who may be slow, but who, once he understood a brief, would stick to it like glue in cabinet. "Like a programmed tank" as one of them once remarked to me admiringly of the late Duncan Sandys, who was known for determination rather than for a questioning mind. Clarke's relish for banging heads together could be promising in this context: but whose heads are nearest to hand?

For the present, officials should feel safe. Advisers who were demoralised only a few weeks ago can now speak cheerfully: the bounce looks more and more like a real recovery. Partly as a result, the only problem with sterling is its strength. As long as the economy is growing and sterling is strong, the panic about the fiscal deficit ought to subside in due course. It makes an encouraging start for one of Nature's cheer-leaders.

However, Clarke has a Midlands industrial background, which means a wide acquaintance with small

companies — risky, inventive, dynamic, and traditionally hostile to the City. Unless promotion has cut him off from his roots, he should shortly be itching to bang some heads for his friends. If the manufacturing recovery maintains its speed, it will soon be running into one of the oldest pot-holes in the British system: the one that used to be known as the Macmillan Gap. This is the difficulty of financing growing small companies: too big for personal loans, but far too small for the stock market.

Down the years, there have been endless attempts to fill this hole. The Wilson Committee considered it. Leslie O'Brien spent much of his Government trying to sponsor relationship banking, as it is now known — though he preferred the Frenchified term *banque d'affaires*, which may have been a handicap. Later the clearing banks jointly sponsored Equity Capital for Industry, which spent six months finding its first two eligible borrowers, and then six weeks watching one of them go bust. The only



ANTHONY HARRIS

business division: but the hole seems bigger than ever. From a banker's point of view, this simply shows prudence: most of the continuing bank losses are on small business loans. If they were to jack up lending rates to a level that would cover what hindsight suggests would be prudent, they would be in political trouble. Much simpler just to say "No".

The European-style solution looks tempting. Small enterprise is a Darwinian sector: bankruptcy has a vital role in its healthy evolution. Equity investment would allow the banks' geared-up profits to balance their inevitable losses, and their branch networks should give them access to parts which City-based venture capital cannot reach. But that "should" conceals another gaping hole — the one that would be filled by branch

managers able to assess an equity proposition. The old Rotarian-style branch manager might with luck have had a flair for it, but this was hardly bankable luck. The new-style financial bird of passage, with no local roots and anxious only to move on, is not even a starter.

If the Chancellor should try banging heads about this problem, he will hear a lot about the much-improved risk-management techniques now in fashion. These should reduce losses, but probably only by reducing lending. What is lacking is not so much risk assessment as business assessment, in which financial judgment must sometimes take a back seat to market knowledge and technical know-how. It means turning potential marketing and engineering directors into bankers, and even if banks could see the problem in this light — as a duty, perhaps, to the system that protects them — it would take years.

Quicker, perhaps, to encourage a deeper invasion by continental Europeans and by American investment banks: they already have an equity culture, and employ non-bankers such as qualified engineers. Meanwhile, watch the Midland Bank to see what imported know-how can do.

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KNIGHT WILLIAMS

Making money work for you.

AEA incurs £35m loss after job cuts provision

By Ross Tieman
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

AEA Technology, the former Atomic Energy Authority, lost £35.7 million last year after setting aside £16.6 million to pay for job cuts and modernising run-down sites.

The exceptional provisions taken in the year to end-March will ease the work of advisers from Barclays de Zoete Wedd appointed by ministers to assess possible strategies for privatisation. But half the sum will go to cover about 500 further job losses this year. AEA aims to slim down to about 7,000 employees, having cut its workforce by almost 1,000 to 8,000 in the past 12 months. John Malby, the

chairman, said. Half of the losses this year are likely to occur at Dounreay, Caithness, where Britain's prototype fast-breeder reactor will cease operations at year-end.

The department of industry has agreed to assume £4 billion of liabilities for decommissioning AEA's former nuclear research sites. However, wrangling is continuing between AEA and Nuclear Electric and Scottish Nuclear, which dispute their liability to contribute more than £20 million in exchange for lessons learned in the decommissioning of the prototype Advanced Gas-cooled Reactor at Sellafield, Cumbria.

The rundown of nuclear research in Britain is giving added impetus to AEA's drive to

commercialise its operations and reposition itself as a leading international group providing diverse technology services.

Mr Malby said: "Our future lies in building a broadly-based business serving not only our government and nuclear industry customers, but also many others." AEA provides industry with high-technology solutions and advice on safety, reliability, environmental protection and waste management.

While overall revenues, at £415 million, declined by 23 per cent, AEA's success at finding new sources of income has been growing. Last year, it earned £47 million from services to private sector industry in Britain, up 17 per cent, with a similar sum generated

overseas. Money-spinning ideas range from a recycling technique for old car tyres to new methods of making pills for the pharmaceutical industry. There are also nuclear consultancy opportunities in Japan and Eastern Europe.

Despite such achievements, the legacy of nuclear research will continue to dominate AEA operations.

Considerable further reorganisation is likely to be needed if AEA is to be privatised, particularly if flotation is to be achieved. One option may be to transfer some of AEA's more sensitive nuclear activities into state-owned BNFL, with which it has close ties. AEA's 500-strong police force is already responsible for policing BNFL sites.

Fewer export orders put dampener on recovery

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

EXPORT orders have fallen back and total orders remain well below normal, according to the latest survey of UK manufacturers by the Confederation of British Industry.

The CBI's monthly trends enquiry for June, published today, strikes a cautious note overall about prospects for recovery in Britain, and suggests that the recession in continental Europe may stifle the advantage felt by many British exporters following sterling's devaluation.

In what the CBI described as a "slight" weakening in export demand, almost a third of the 1,600 companies in the survey believe that their export order book is below normal. The surveyed firms are responsible for about half of all UK manufacturing employment and exports.

The CBI said that export orders are still stronger than at any time between August 1990 and April 1993. The balance — companies reporting above normal orders in June, set against those recording lower than normal levels — of minus 10 per cent of companies, compares with minus 5 per cent in May.

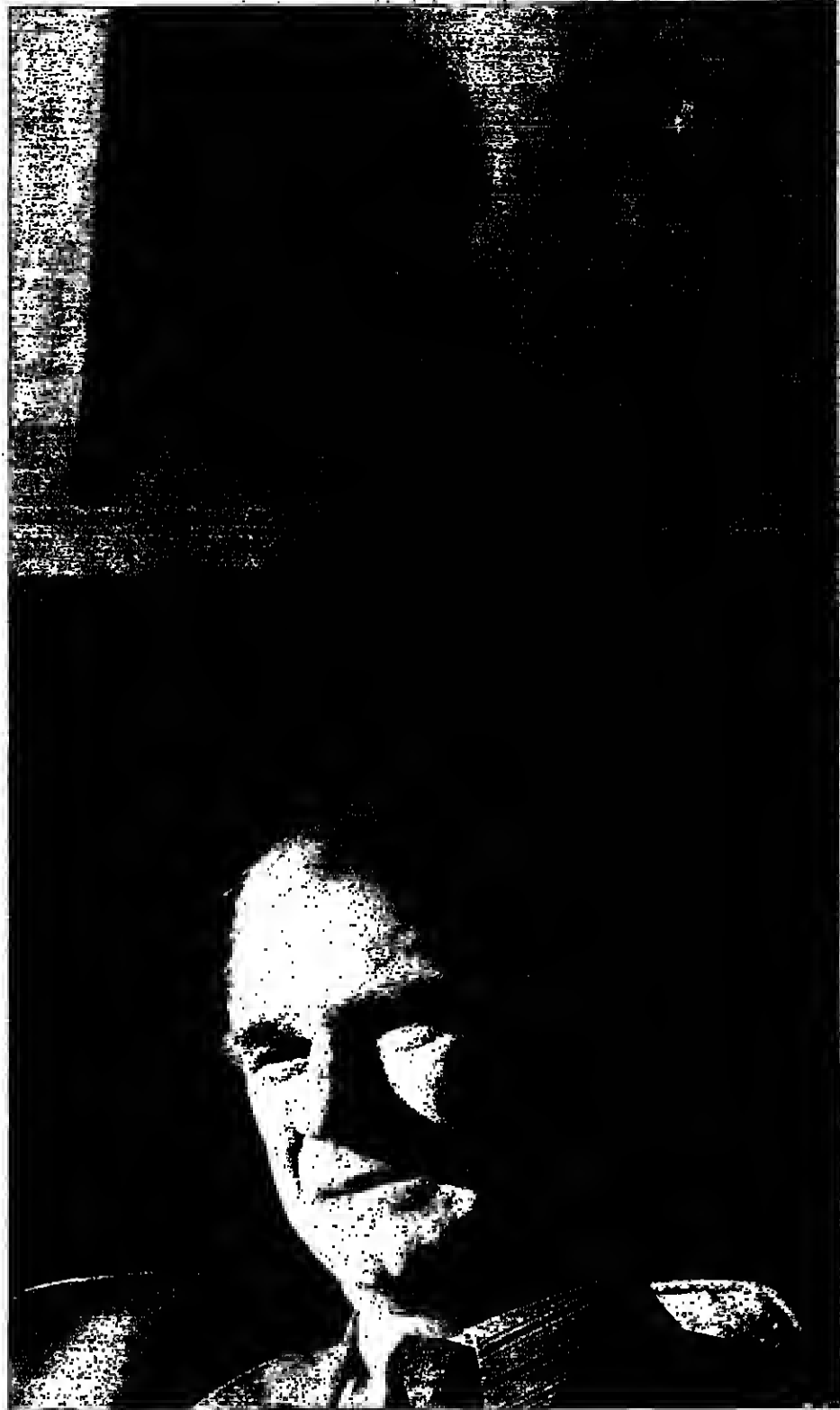
Howard Davies, the CBI director-general, said the relative position of export orders reflected the impact of devaluation and manufacturers' own success in controlling costs. But he added: "This small setback in export orders probably reflects the weakness of demand elsewhere in the EC, which takes almost 60 per cent

of Britain's exports." Total order books remain broadly unchanged, at a balance of minus 23 per cent of companies reporting them at below normal. Business leaders believe that this, taken with the fallback in export orders, may indicate that there has been improvement in domestic demand.

In spite of the weakening in export demand, manufacturers are still forecasting that output will rise over the next four months — though again, output expectations have worsened by roughly the same proportion as export orders. CBI figures show a balance of 12 per cent of companies believe that output will rise, compared with 23 per cent in May. The CBI noted that the figure was still higher than a year ago.

Positive balances on output expectations have now been recorded by the CBI's trends surveys for the past six months. Stocks of finished goods remain more than adequate to meet demand, even though they have been run down since last month.

Prices are expected to remain subdued, with a balance of 3 per cent of companies believing there is an upward price trend — the lowest net proportion of companies expecting to be able to increase prices since November. Mr Davies said the fact that three out of every four companies expected to keep prices at current levels was "good news" for inflation.



A cautious picture: Howard Davies says there is good news on inflation

Pay rises may be at their lowest

By Our Industrial Editor

PAY settlements may now have reached a floor and are unlikely to fall below their current average of up to 4 per cent, according to an analysis of wage deals that notes the "vast majority" are still for above-inflation rises.

Recent government figures showed that the level of increase in average earnings has stopped falling. While Whitehall officials hope the earnings stickiness is only temporary, the latest analysis from Incomes Data Services, an independent pay company, suggests the level may well now have stabilised.

The company's latest pay survey reports: "Following a long period of steady decline in settlement levels, our analysis suggests the level of pay increases may now have stabilised. If it is the case that economic recovery is now underway, then levels of pay increases may not fall further."

IDSS says the majority of pay settlements in the private sector are running at 2-4 per cent. With the increase in the retail price index now down to 1.3 per cent, such settlement levels mean that most deals are running ahead of inflation — with some deals now three times the rate. Pay rises in the public sector are also higher than inflation, even though they are constrained by the government's 1.5 per cent public sector pay policy.

A significant number of firms, however, have agreed rises of 4 per cent and above, including Marks and Spencer, at 4.5 per cent, and Eagle Star and Rhondda-Powell Rorer, in Dagenham, — both 4 per cent. IDSS says that even though inflation is forecast to rise later this year and into 1994, it is not yet clear whether pay levels will follow suit.

TI's Anglo-French venture will create world leader

By Ross Tieman, Industrial Correspondent

TI GROUP and Snecma, the French Aero-engine group, plan to establish the world's biggest aircraft landing gear company by combining their undercarriage interests in a 50/50 joint venture.

The business, to be called Messier-Dowty, would equip about 40 per cent of the world's civil jets and warplanes and overtake American rivals Menasco and Cleveland Pneumatic in sales.

Annual sales would exceed £300 million, with operations run from Britain by TI executives.

Details of the talks were announced yesterday because they have reached an advanced stage. Tony Edwards, who will head the business, said the plan accords with British and European Community desires to strengthen the competitiveness of the aerospace industry. Soundings taken with competition authorities suggested a merger would find favour, he added.

A deal is also likely to be welcomed by the French gov-

ernment, which plans to reduce its 97 per cent stake in Snecma by partial privatisation.

TI believes the combined business would be better-equipped to fund development of new landing gear systems and says it should be able to enhance profitability through more efficient use of its plants.

Mr Edwards said the partners "don't anticipate running

down or closing" any operations. The three engineering design teams would be kept, but managed jointly.

Dowty, bought by TI for £510 million a year ago, and Messier-Bugatti, the Snecma undercarriage subsidiary, have been alternate rivals and collaborators since 1937, when a Messier landing gear design was adopted for Britain's Halifax bomber.

Both are suppliers to Boeing, Airbus Industrie and McDonnell Douglas, as well as warplane makers in their respective countries.

The Dowty landing gear operations employ 1,400 people at plants in Gloucester, and in Montreal, Toronto and Peterborough in Canada.

Messier-Bugatti has a similar number of employees spread between its manufacturing plant at Bidos in southwest France and headquarters at Velizy, near Paris.

Final terms of the transaction are likely to take several months to complete.

Edwards: favour for merger

'Big Bull' is accused in India

By A Correspondent

INVESTIGATORS have filed the first court case against the stockbroker Harshad Mehta over India's biggest financial scandal, a week after he accused the Indian prime minister, P. V. Narasimha Rao, of accepting money from him.

Justice S. N. Warrier, enquiring into the ₹75 million securities scandal, said that he would assess today the charges against Mr Mehta, his wife, Jyoti, and his brothers Ashwin and Sudhir. The charges involve the illegal discount of bills worth 500 million rupees (£11 million) and the diversion to Mr Mehta, nicknamed "Big Bull", of 400 million rupees from the National Housing Bank for use in securities transactions.

Mr Mehta's lawyers said that Justice Warrier would set a trial date if he found that the Central Bureau of Investigation had grounds to bring Mr Mehta to court.

Political analysts say a trial would be among India's most sensational. Mr Mehta says he gave Mr Rao ₹10 million rupees for his election campaign.

ML Holdings group falls deeper into loss

ML HOLDINGS, the aerospace-electronic components group that made a £14.3 million rights issue earlier this year to avoid breaking banking agreements, fell deeper into loss in the year to end-March. The group had pre-tax losses of £11.2 million against losses of £4.7 million last year, and the dividend is passed. Losses per share were 18.4p (loss: 8.6p).

ML said the unsatisfactory performance was forecast at the cash call, but the group was currently profitable. Directors said yesterday that reduced credit available from the banks meant the group suffered "severe cash pressures" in the second half but the rights issue helped to correct this. Most divisions experienced difficult trading, with aircraft and cargo handling turning an operating loss of £756,000 against a £1.6 million operating profit last year. Aerospace and marine made an operating loss of £488,000 (£734,000 profit). The shares, 26p, were unchanged.

Vizcaya acquisition

VIZCAYA Holdings, the USM company whose remaining asset is a moribund zinc mine in Spain, is to acquire Union Group, a property investment company, and change its name to Premier Land. It will also seek a full stock exchange listing. The acquisition will cost £3.47 million for a company that has £4.97 million net assets and annualised rental income of £3.8 million. Vizcaya will pay for Union by placing shares to raise £2.22 million and issuing shares to the vendors.

Cranswick cash call

A ONE-FOR-FOUR rights issue to raise £3.8 million was launched by Cranswick, the USM-listed animal feed-to-pork products group, which also announced it has applied for a full listing. The issue, at 152p a share against 181p in the market yesterday, is partly to provide expansion capital. Pre-tax profits for the year to end-March rose 29 per cent to £22 million (£17 million) on turnover up to £109.6 million (£93.9 million). Earnings per share slipped from 14.6p to 13.7p.

Sterling Ind advances

STERLING Industries, the combustion and hydraulics engineer, raised its taxable profits in the year to end-March to £3.7 million from £3.5 million. The best turnaround was in the hydraulics division which made a £995,000 profit against a £29,000 loss last year after a better performance in America and the UK. Profits in the new thermal process division fell to £881,000 (£1.2 million). Earnings per share rose to 8.60p (7.45p). A 4.1p final gives a total dividend payout held at 5.6p.

Faupel profits fall

FAUPEL Trading Group, the importer of Chinese textiles, saw its margins eroded in the year to end-March owing to the pound's devaluation and taxable profits fell to £825,000 against £1.2 million last year. Volumes were maintained and turnover rose 19 per cent to £31.4 million (£26.4 million). The company announced a small placing and open offer to raise £2.05 million to reduce borrowings. Earnings per share fell to 6.42p (10.22p) and total dividend is held at 4.9p.

Insurance help for exports extended

By Our Industrial Staff

THE government yesterday moved to help British exporters by making a significant change to export reinsurance provisions that will extend current arrangements for at least four years.

The move follows strong pressure from exporters who claimed that the high cost and limited availability of export credit cover was causing the loss of hundreds of millions of pounds in exports and putting at risk thousands of jobs.

The government believes its move, announced in a written Commons answer yesterday, gives exporters the security they have been seeking and should allow them to operate in markets traditional for British exporters but regarded as risky in terms of potential defaults on deals. Ministers believe the move will both protect and provide jobs and reinforce Britain's emergence from recession.

The government, through the Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD),

had agreed to provide top-up reinsurance to exporters for three years to bridge the gap between the 90 per cent-plus reinsurance financing available from the private sector. Richard Needham, the trade minister, said yesterday that agreement — part of transitional arrangements put in place after the privatisation of the short-term business arm of the ECGD and its purchase in 1991 by NCM Credit Insurance of the Netherlands — would be extended until at least 1997. The government retains the right to terminate the facility, though it will give exporters two years' notice of any such move.

Ministers, who accept that the private reinsurance market may well not expand sufficiently in the short term to meet the likely demand for export credit insurance increasing with the rise in exports after sterling's devaluation, — believe their move will safeguard about £1 billion of exports.

Making it clear that if the insurance market were to plunge again after the

extension period, the government would again step in to help them, Mr Needham said efforts would be made to maximise the extent to which reinsurance was provided by the private market.

Mr Needham said: "My hope is that as the insurance industry comes out of the appalling problems it has had over the last few years it will be able to take on extra risks as the basis of its underwriting improves and at rates which will be more competitive than will be offered by the ECGD."

In addition, the extended arrangements will be made available to creditors beyond NCM, which should allow competitors such as Trade Indemnity to enter the market.

Mr Needham did not accept that the original transitional arrangements had proved to be inadequate, but said that the market had changed. He said: "It's rather like being a member of Lloyd's — nobody really saw what the market would be like three years ago."



CABLE & WIRELESS



Beating bad payers: John Seed, chief executive, says bad debts are not expected to rise now that pre-paid meters had been installed

Electricity profits top £100m

By MARTIN WALLER
DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

SOUTH Western Electricity, one of the 12 regional power distributors in England and Wales, claims to have all but wiped out disconnections of bad payers by issuing pre-payment meters. Just one person in 1.2 million customers was disconnected in May for not paying bills.

But the cost was higher: provisions for bad debts from the core distribution business, which rose £2.7 million to £6.6 million in the year to end-March, the company's annual figures show.

John Seed, the chief executive, said bad debts were not expected to advance significantly in the current year, now most of the bad payers were on pre-payment meters. South Western made pre-tax profits of £101.1 million (£83.0 million). A final dividend of 14.1p pushes the total to 20.0p, a 14.9 per cent increase that is towards the top end of dividend rises reported in the distributors' annual figures season.

The retailing arm saw losses deepen from £400,000 to £1.9 million, despite the addition of the South Wales Electricity shops that contributed a total of £750,000 in profit.

HTV chief replaced by finance director

By MARTIN WALLER
DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

CHARLES Romaine has quit his post as chief executive of HTV Group, the west country and Wales television franchise-holder. Mr Romaine, 56, is officially described as retiring after two years in the job.

HTV is one of the ITV companies widely seen as struggling in the changed environment following the 1991 franchise round. Mr Romaine's replacement is Chris Rowlands, 41, the former finance director, who said: "My immediate task is to ensure that HTV repays the loyalty of its shareholders by returning to profitability."

Company sources were denying that the replacement of the chief executive with a numbers man came after shareholder pressure or was in any way intended to fend off a possible bid approach — HTV's strained finances have prompted suggestions that it may be snapped up by a rival.

The company is negotiating compensation with Mr Romaine who was paid about £130,000 a year. The company report last month revealed that HTV had paid Mr Romaine and Mr Rowlands £226,000 in all to move closer to their work. Mr Romaine was paid £65,440 to bridge a valuation gap on his house, plus further costs from the relocation and a bridging loan. The two were also granted share options at attractive levels.

Last year, HTV lost £2.07 million at the taxable level and axed the final dividend. The company is committed to finding £20.5 million a year to cover payments to the Treasury in the new franchise round.

SelectTV profit leaps 91%

By MARTIN FLANAGAN

A BOARDROOM split at SelectTV, the UK's leading independent programme producer, has not stopped taxable profits from leaping 91 per cent to £809,000 (£423,000) in the year to end-March.

Michael Buckley, was ousted from the position of chairman in March, after differences with Allan McKewon, chief executive, but yesterday the company said Mr Buckley will be a consultant to SelectTV for 30 months at a charge of £25,000 a year.

Mr McKewon said the group's 15 per cent investment in Meridian, which has run the TV franchise for the South East since the beginning of the year, had produced several worthwhile commissions.

SelectTV, whose programmes include *Lovejoy* and *The New Statesman*, saw turnover jump 74 per cent to £19.9 million, and earnings per share move ahead to 0.42p from 0.38p.

There is no dividend, but the board says an appropriate dividend policy will now be considered. The profit was after £389,000 of exceptional costs and provisions, partly due to litigation regarding Mr Buckley.

Redundancies put a £37m dent in TSB first-half figures

By PATRICIA TEHAN
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE burden of cutting 1,100 jobs cost TSB Group £44 million in the six months to end-April. The costs limited the growth in pre-tax profits, which rose from £77 million to £80 million.

Most of the job cuts came from the decision to integrate banking and insurance operations, of the £44 million, £37 million was redundancy costs. Despite the higher profits and a positive message on prospects, the dividend was held at 3.15p per share.

Sir Nicholas Goodison, the chairman, said "the board's policy is to pay dividends as the years go by in advance of the RPI index, providing performance in any one year and prospects justify it." He said the board has decided to defer any decision on the current

■ Sir Nicholas Goodison, the TSB chairman, would like to see the introduction of bank charges for current account customers in credit, but admits that his own bank has no current plans for this

year's dividend until the final results are known. Analysts expect a small increase in the full year dividend to about 6.75p from 6.4p.

As for profits forecasts, Christopher Ellerton at Warburg, the company's broker, raised his from £175 million to £240 million, putting it at the top end of the range. Peter Toeman, banking analyst at Hoare Govett, is looking for a pre-tax figure of £190 million, up from £143 million in the year to end-March.

Provisions for bad and doubtful debts at £205 million, were up on last year's first-half figure of 165 million, but showed a significant drop

from the second half's £432 million. Profit before bad debts rose 26 per cent to £337 million.

But retail banking profits fell from £143 million to £118 million reflecting the bank's decision to introduce competitive products to attract depositors. Peter Ellwood, TSB's chief executive, said competitive savings balances now stand at £6.2 billion with old low-interest savings account balances at £2 billion.

He joined the chorus of bank chief executives who would like to see an introduction of bank charges for current account customers in credit. He said such charges

are "inevitable in time", but said TSB has no current plans to do so. "It would be attractive if charges could be introduced in some kind of flexible way that reflected the sort of relationship we have with the customer," he said.

The bank increased its mortgage balances 21 per cent to £5.2 billion. In the six months to April it grew mortgage balances at four times the rate of national growth.

TSB Insurance increased its profits from £39 million to £88 million. The bank sells its insurance products to TSB customers through branches. Hill Samuel, the merchant banking arm, increased its profits

from £30 million to £53 million, while Mortgage Express reduced its losses from £30 million to £15 million.

Mr Ellwood said the three challenges ahead were improving the quality of TSB's prime business of retail banking and insurance, bringing about an orderly run-down of the £1.8 billion Hill Samuel non-performing loan book — which was transferred into a Loan Administration Unit last year — and running down the Mortgage Express mortgage book.

The loan administration unit saw its losses increase from £66 million to £86 million, after increasing its provisions from £40 million to £54 million, of which £20 million was on the property portfolio. Second half provisions for the unit are likely to be lower.

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Smith New Court seeks £41m for expansion

By NEIL BENNETT

SMITH New Court, the stock-broking firm, is planning to expand its operations in South East Asia with the proceeds of a £41.2 million rights issue announced yesterday.

The company launched the cash call after revealing record pre-tax profits of £38.7 million for the year to May 7, 110 per cent up on last year. Sir Michael Richardson, Smith's chairman, said it was strengthening its capital to increase its ability to undertake large corporate equity deals.

As part of the rights issue, Smith is increasing its independence from the Rothschild Group, its largest shareholder. Rothschilds has decided not to take up most of its rights, and its fully diluted stake in the group will fall from 38 per cent to 26.5 per cent. However, Rothschilds plans to remain its largest shareholder.

Smith's shares rose strongly on the results and the rights issue to finish at 285p, up 35p. The company is offering two new shares for every seven existing ones, at 210p a share.

As an independent firm, Smith has never had the capital resources of its rivals which are able to rely on their parent banks for cash. As a result, Michael Marks, the

chief executive, said the firm has almost been forced to refuse business recently. "Last year we were perilously close to being offered three profitable pieces of business at the same time and we would have been forced to choose which we could do," he said.

Smith wants to carry out more international equity deals but needs extra capital to be able to hold the stock until it can be settled in the local market. The rights money, combined with last year's profits will increase its capital to an estimated £150 million.

Sir Michael said Smith is paying £5 million for a full seat on the Singapore stock

exchange to complement its operations in Hong Kong and Malaysia. Smith is also active in the new Chinese equity markets, and is a leading US broker in overseas equities.

Smith's profits soared last autumn when it started market making in 200 new British stocks just as the market in small and medium company shares recovered. The only black spot in the firm's results was a small loss from its agency broking business in Tokyo. The company is paying a 5p final dividend making 6p for the year, an increase of a third.

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Record profits: Michael Marks, chief executive

Fleming closes gap on rival

By OUR BANKING CORRESPONDENT

ROBERT Fleming, the City merchant bank, showed it is hot on the heels of its rival SG Warburg after unveiling a 33 per cent leap in pre-tax profits to £101.6 million in the year to end-March.

The profits are stated after transfer to inner reserves, though next year Fleming will be forced to declare inner reserves under the European Commission rules. The profits compare with Warburg's £148.2 million.

Fleming's success last year owed much to its role as co-ordinator of the £2.3 billion stock market flotation of Wellcome, the drugs giant.

John Manser, chief executive, confirmed that Wellcome was "a very good contributor to profits", but refused to reveal how much came from the flotation. "Coyness is something I have been practising all my life," he said, adding: "It was a major transaction and on that you tend to earn major fees". However, he said the group would not have been lost without it.

The biggest profit contributor was Fleming's asset management business, which increased its total assets under management by more than 20 per cent to £33.3 billion.

Mr Manser said the stock

broking operation also proved its worth, in terms of selling Wellcome shares and its overall contribution during the year.

The Treasury operation performed well after the withdrawal of sterling from the exchange-rate mechanism. Mr Manser said: "Up to September 12 it was bloody awful. There was very little volume and trying to earn money against low volume and fixed exchange rates was no fun." The bank had "a good time during the devaluation period" and has performed well since then, he said, though he refused to reveal just how well.

Jardine Fleming, which is jointly owned with Jardine Matheson, reported profits of US\$93 million in 1992, slightly down on the previous year, but this was seen as a strong result after the poor performance of the Tokyo market.

The dividend for the year is increased from 35p to 38p — an increase of 15 per cent. Earnings per share have increased from 116.1p to 142.6p.

The group's disclosed capital resources increase in value from £410.4 million to £499.1 million and shareholders' funds rose from £361 million to £441 million, up 22 per cent.

Lonrho shares jump as it 'clearly turns corner'

By COLIN CAMPBELL

LONRHO shares, which languished at 59p last October, jumped 7p to 120½p yesterday as the market registered enthusiasm for the group's stronger set of interim results.

The hand of Dieter Bock, the German entrepreneur who joined the international mining and trading group as joint chief executive alongside Tiny Rowland earlier this year, is clearly evident in results for the period to March 31. They show higher profits, a reduction in debt and a generally improved financial position.

Overall pre-tax profits rose from £50 million to £87 million, operating profit from continuing operations advanced from a restated £55 million to £67

million, and the interim dividend is maintained at 2p a share. Mr Rowland and Mr Bock, who owns 18 per cent of Lonrho, said that provided commodity prices did not deteriorate, the board viewed trading for the rest of 1993 "with optimism".

Lonrho's formal statement says: "The management action taken over the past 18 months and increased precious metal production have been major factors in enhancing the profits being reported". But since Mr Bock became an executive, Lonrho has agreed two significant asset disposals that considerably strengthen its financial position.

The German-based property concern GEWOG was sold in March, and in June the sale of the loss-making

Observer for £27 million was announced. An improved cashflow and higher profitability are assured. Capital spending in the half year eased from £100 million to £62 million, and is unlikely to be more than £110 million for the whole financial year.

Gold output at the Ashanti mine in Ghana was 16 per cent higher at 380,000 ounces and output of platinum group metals from group mines in South Africa increased by 39 per cent to 430,000 ounces, and is expected to be 890,000 ounces for the year.

Lonrho generally benefited from higher platinum, palladium and gold prices in the interim period — and stands to benefit further in the second half from the most recent precious metal price advances. Lonrho says the

impact of the sale of GEWOG has reduced gearing to 35 per cent and trimmed net borrowings to £587 million.

Analysts said of the results that "Lonrho has clearly turned the corner". The interim dividend is held at 2p a share, and analysts are looking for a similar 2p payment for the second half. For the year ended September 30, Lonrho paid 4p a share, compared with a total 13p made in the 1991 financial year.

The market expects further asset sales, though the structure of Lonrho is likely stayed focused on mining, agriculture, trading and hotels.

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Diary, page 27



"Really jolly good"

Bad debts hit profits at Shanks

Problems in collecting debts from construction clients have hit Shanks & McEwan, the waste management group. Group pre-tax profit plunged from £27 million to £10.2 million after a £17 million turnover provision, mainly due to non-payment on three road contracts, one from the Scottish Office. A further £2.3 million taken against profit relates to reorganisation of the construction division.

Gordon Waddell, chairman, said that there was no evidence of any significant upturn in the waste management business, which showed a slight rise in profit from £25.7 million to £26.3 million on a 10 per cent rise in turnover. He said that the recession had led to a less profitable mix of business. Turnover in the core Waste Services business rose by 2 per cent, with an 11 per cent increase in turnover to £67 million, but profits rose 9 per cent to £13.7 million due to a slip in margins.

Turnover at Rechem, the environmental services business, rose 7 per cent to £30.8 million, but a loss from overseas business, because of regulatory changes, cut profits from £9.5 million to £9.1 million.

Earnings per share fell to 4.1p from last year's 9.9p. The dividend is maintained at 5.7p.

Bridport move

Brian Cowley has resigned as managing director of Bridport-Gundry, the medical and defence products group. He will be replaced by Geoffrey Woods, formerly of Toray Europe, the textiles maker.

Agencies link

The advertising agency Gold Greenless Trott is joining forces with GSK, of Germany, to try to build a new worldwide advertising force. It will consist of GGT's agencies in the UK and the US and GSK's European operations.

Hughes alert

T.J. Hughes, the Liverpool discount retailer, has said that the recession is still hitting it. Gurth Hoyer Millar, chairman, said that poor spring weather had affected sales in seasonal departments, but matters could be changed "significantly" by a good summer.

STOCK MARKET

Tour groups depressed by lack of enquiry timetable



Sir Denis: details needed

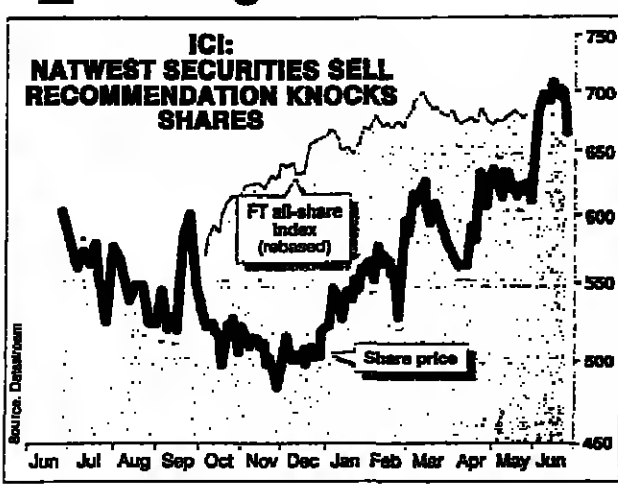
AIRTOURS and Owners Abroad Group, the tour operators, were sent into a spin by news that the results of an Office of Fair Trading investigation may not be known for some time. The informal enquiry is asking whether the UK's three largest tour operators, including Thomson, are using their links with four of the country's biggest travel agents to restrict the choice of holidays offered to consumers.

The OFT said there was no fixed date by which its findings had to be completed. Airtoours fell 15p to 324p, while Owners Abroad slid 4p to 97p.

In the wider market, equities ran out of steam, with shares getting off to a weak start after another overnight fall on Wall Street. The FT-SE 100 index dropped below the 2,900 level, despite some support from futures that helped to limit the fall on the cash market.

Sentiment in London was bolstered in afternoon trading by Wall Street, where shares opened slightly ahead. The FT-SE 100 index trimmed losses to end down 6 points at 2,894.7, but volume remained thin, reaching only 517.2 million shares.

ICI fell 18p to 663p after a sell recommendation from NatWest Securities and Kleinwort Benson. Ian John, at NatWest, said his stance



ICI: NATWEST SECURITIES SELL RECOMMENDATION KNOCKS SHARES

was influenced by an expectation that the cyclical recovery in bulk chemicals may be delayed. Mr John said the American recovery is looking shaky, while there is no dramatic upturn in the UK and substantial uncertainty in Europe. He said the short-term could see downgrades, while longer-term prospects are "rather muted".

Analysts will look to Sir Denis Henderson, ICI's chairman, to provide further details on progress at today's annual meeting. However, if some of the signs from other European chemical groups are anything to go by, Sir Denis may be pressed to deliver an upbeat statement.

Courtaulds gained 13p to

565p, helped by a badly-handled buy order and switching out of ICI. Glaxo lost 6p to 573p, hit by a profit downgrading by James Capel. Berisford International has appointed Kleinwort Benson Securities as its joint broker, with Hoare Govett remaining lead broker. In recognition of Kleinwort's role when Berisford was planning an offer to take over the C&J Clark shoe group. City sources see this latest move as a forerunner to acquisitions by Berisford, steady at 132p.

Lucas Industries reversed an early fall to close unchanged at 136p after details of a presentation to analysts were released to the market by the company. That was a first

for Lucas and follows Stock Exchange criticism of London International Group, down 1p to 182p, for selective disclosure.

There was some positive news for Babcock International, off 1p to 37p, and Thorn EMI, down 4p to 915p. The two are linked in a joint venture company running the Rosyth dockyard in Scotland. Confirmation that the naval dockyard at Devonport had been awarded the £5 billion contract to refit Trident, Britain's nuclear submarine, was offset by the guarantee of work for Rosyth for the next 12 years.

Lloyds added 7.5p to 121p on heavy volume of 8.2 million after impressing the City with

a better than expected 84 per cent leap in profits and positive comments on prospects.

Smith New Court jumped 35p to 285p after accompanying a 110 per cent surge in full-year profits to £38.7 million with a £41.2 million rights issue, on a two-for-seven basis at 210p a share. Smith intends to use the proceeds to develop the business.

Shoptire Group was unchanged at 141p despite a strong buy recommendation from Credit Lyonnais Laing, which thinks the company will become a leading force within a few years.

GLT-EDGED: The gilt market made further gains on the back of expectations of interest rate cuts in Continental Europe. There were gains of 1/4 or more across the board, with longer dated stock faring best. The Bank of England signified continued confidence by deciding to tap the market for £850 million in three existing issues of stock, consisting of £300 million of Treasury 7 1/2 per cent 1998, £400 million of Treasury 8 per cent 2013 and £150 million of Index-linked 2016. On the futures market, the September series of the long gilt ended 10 ticks higher at £106 3/4, on volume of 40,000 contracts.

PHILIP PANGALOS

WORLD MARKETS

Fund buyers lift Nikkei despite political fears

Tokyo — Shares ended firmer on buying by public pension funds and insurance funds and helped by a strong futures market. The Nikkei index closed up 192.55 points, or 0.99 per cent, at 19,685.07. A higher yen and bond market, and rallies in some issues, encouraged sentiment, but political uncertainty made investors cautious, leaving trade thin.

Masayoshi Yano, of Nikko Securities, said that the market had recovered from the

shock of the collapse of the ruling Liberal Democrats. "People are not worried about a freefall now," he said. However, people did not feel like buying until after the parliamentary election next month.

Active buying linked to employees' stock ownership programs also supported the market. Japanese companies traditionally give their employees bonuses twice a year, in summer and winter.

Investors were encouraged

by the rise in bond prices, which made them hopeful of a discount rate cut soon, brokers said. A slightly higher yen helped sentiment because Japanese investors think foreign currencies may not rashly take profits if the yen is rising. However, political uncertainty limited buying. Most people are waiting for the result of Tokyo city council elections on Sunday.

□ New York — A steady bond market and a firm dollar in Europe kept US blue chips

higher at midday as the stock market bounced back from Wednesday's decline. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 9.96 at 3,476.77.

□ Frankfurt — Shares fell back at the end of official trading on position-squaring. Sentiment deteriorated on fears about the poor state of the German economy and on receding rate cut hopes. The Dax closed down 13.10 at 1,686.29. Technical factors dominated: disappointment

that the Dax failed to hold 1,700 ended prices further.

□ Sydney — The Australian share market closed slightly up because of firmer gold and gains by News Corp, after reports that it is to post a good profit for this year. The all-ordinaries index closed up 0.9 at 1,669.7.

□ Singapore — Shares fell amid concern over the market's near-term direction. The Straits Times index closed at 1,770.90, down 20.21. (Reuters)

HUNTERS ARMLEY (Inf)
Pre-tax £973,000
EPS: 3.15p (2.71p)
Div: 1.25p (nil)

Profits last time were £716,000. Turnover rose to £16.4 million from £14.6 million. Volume was risen but margins still competitive.

INTERCARE (Inf)
Pre-tax £1.88m (£1.4m)
EPS: 4.1p (4.2p)
Div: 0.7p (0.6p)

Turnover rose to £17.68 million from £10.8 million. Range of mobility products expanded through acquisition of RTH.

NEEPSEND (Fin)
Pre-tax £39,000 loss
EPS: 0.32p loss
Div: 0.5p, mkg 0.75p

Profit in previous year was £402,000 and total dividend was 1.5p. There was an exceptional charge of £346,000.

STODARD SEKERS (Fin)
Pre-tax £1.5m (£3.28m)
EPS: 1.8p (8.8p)
Div: 0.75p, mkg 1.5p

Dividend in previous year was £2,625, with a 1.875p final. Turnover rose to £55.4 million from £46.08 million.

TEX HOLDINGS (Fin)
Pre-tax £24,000 loss
EPS: 1.5p loss
Div: Nil (nil)

Loss in previous year was £396,000 with losses per share of 5p. Net assets per share fell to 85p from 90p.

VIBROPLANT (Fin)
Pre-tax £1.5m (£4.5m)
EPS: 2.66p (8.55p)
Div: 1.25p, mkg 2.5p

Dividend in previous year was 3.6p. Turnover was £59.9 million, down from £78.8 million. Interest charge was £2.7 million (£4.6m).

LEARMONTHBURCHETT
Pre-tax £1.61m
EPS: 7p (0.7p)
Div: 0.75p (nil)

Final results. Profit last time was £303,000. Turnover increased to £23.8 million from £21.4 million.

SOUTH WESTERN ELECTRICITY plc



ANOTHER YEAR OF PROGRESS

Results for the year ended 31 March 1993

	1993	1992	%
Turnover	£892.0m	£847.1m	+5.3%
Profit before tax	£101.1m	£83.0m	+21.8%
Earnings per share	63.1p	50.6p	+24.7%
Total dividend per share	20.0p	17.4p	+14.9%

"These results show the benefit of concentrating our resources on our electricity business: we have improved our profit margins and further strengthened our balance sheet. We continue to achieve both enhanced customer service and improved operating cost efficiency as the necessary response to our changing environment."

Progress has also been made in the careful and selective expansion of the Group's operating base through the development of businesses related to our existing strengths. I am particularly pleased by our successful entry into the gas supply market and by the progress made by our investments in electricity generation projects."

John Seed
Chief Executive

Copies of the Annual Report will be posted to shareholders on 30 July. Others who would like a copy should contact Investor Relations, South Western Electricity plc, 800 Park Avenue, Acton, West. Albany, Bristol BS 2 4SE. Tel: 0454 201101

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

071-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

INSURANCE COMPANIES ACT 1982

Notice of Approval of Transfer of Business

CONTINENTAL INSURANCE PLC: THE TRANSFEROR

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 51(5)(a) of the above Act that the Secretary of State has approved a transfer of certain general business from the transferor to Lombard Continental Insurance (UK) Limited (formerly Elizabethan Insurance Company).

Department of Trade and Industry

London May 1993

CHARITY COMMISSION

Notice of the Children's Fund

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LEGAL NOTICES

ALFRO PRODUCTS LIMITED

NOTICE OF THE CHILDREN'S FUND

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The dinosaurs take on Arnie in clash of the film giants

Philip Robinson reports on this summer's attempt by Steven Spielberg and Universal Studios to restore their reputations as successful film-makers

First there was Lassie, then Ripper the dolphin, Mr Ed, the talking horse and the extra terrestrial appeal of ET. Now dinosaurs have joined the fray in the battle for screen audiences in Britain, America and Japan.

But this year's fight goes beyond the usual scramble for market share, box office takings and sales of the tee-shirt. Also riding on the current fad is the flagging career of Steven Spielberg, the film maker, and the corporate pride of Matsushita, one of Japan's largest electronics companies.

Matsushita bought its way into Hollywood three years ago with \$6.6 billion cheque for MCA and its Universal Studios but so far has not made a single \$100 million blockbuster. Worse, Sony Corporation, its arch Japanese rival, bought into Hollywood for a cheaper \$5 billion more than a year earlier and has topped the film charts with five films grossing more than \$100 million.

Battle commences soon in the UK with the opening of Universal's *Jurassic Park*, a robotised computerised epic by Mr Spielberg about genetically engineered dinosaurs which turn from fun to horror. While Sony's leading summer contender is *Last Action Hero* starring \$15 million-a-film tough guy Arnold Schwarzenegger and a tentative London release date of July 30.

For maximum impact, Universal is releasing *Jurassic* simultaneously in London and Tokyo. Analysts say the technique will enable it to ride the wave of the media frenzy which it has carefully created in the US. The move underlines the importance of the foreign market that can now account for half a film's worldwide gross. In Japan, the launch is being tied to a promotion for Matsushita's Pioneer electronic products.

Jurassic Park was two years in the making and cost between \$60 million and \$80 million. Studios get roughly half the box office takings (the cinema owners take the rest) so it needed to take more than \$160 million before it had a chance of making a profit. In its first nine days in the US it topped \$100 million.

But Universal is looking to its new screen idols to make a further \$1 billion from sales of the 1,000-product dinosaur merchandising campaign which includes *Jurassic Park* gummy bear sweets, toys, masks, underwear, walkie-talkies, trading cards, comic books and linen towels sold by over 100 licensees. McDonald's is tied into the promotion offering dino-sized hamburgers and there is likely to be at least one sequel, a television series and a theme ride at Universal's parks in Florida and Los Angeles.

Not since the days of the first Batman film and Dick Tracy has the push for part of the \$62 billion merchandising industry been so extensive. Barely had the ink dried on the \$2 million MCA paid author Michael



Monster movie *Jurassic Park* has taken \$120 million so far in the US

Crithon for the book, when every part of the organisation, including its record division, was rallied to the project.

David Davis, analyst with Paul Kagan Associates, the film consultants, said: "*Jurassic Park* is an important movie for Universal and could push them to the top of the studio market. Share rankings and return them in the eyes of the public and media to a mainstream film distributor."

Jurassic's opening got off to a record start in the US with 9.65 million tickets sold and \$120.2 million taken at the box office so far. The early returns prompted Tom Pollock, chairman of Universal Studios who acknowledged last year the *Jurassic Park* was "a really important movie for this company" to forecast the film would be the highest grossing film on record in Japan.

He is much more cautious about achieving the same status in the US. That record is held by *ET*, Mr Spielberg's greatest hit, which earned an estimated \$330 million worldwide.

The 1982 *ET* has come to signify a plateau for Mr Spielberg. His recent films of *Hook*, *The Color Purple*, *Empire of the Sun* and *Always*, have disappointed either the critics or the box office and sometimes both and are in sharp contrast to earlier hits: *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* and *Jaws*.

Despite the lack of blockbusters, Universal has restored its profits on film-making. Mr Pollock, head of Universal Studios since 1986, order a 25 per cent cut in film costs in 1991 after that side of its business incurred a loss. As a result, a number of 1992 releases were highly profitable, but Universal has passed the \$100 million barrier only twice since *ET*, once in 1985 with *Back to the Future* starring Michael J. Fox and again with the sequel in 1989. Neither were Spielberg films.

The record of the opposition is much more impressive. Since Sony led the

Japanese march into Hollywood, four of its films have taken \$100 million and one topped \$200 million with stars which have included Mr Schwarzenegger, Billy Crystal, Madonna and Sharon Stone. Arnie leads Sony's assault again this summer in the \$80 million *Last Action Hero*. The plot is centred around a young male film fan who steps from the auditorium into the screen to join his idol and together they travel on an "epic adventure".

Despite the previous successes of Mr Schwarzenegger's violent *Total Recall* and *Terminator* films, prospects for the latest minimum-dialogue role of Hollywood's beefiest actor are not looking quite so rosy. In a recent television chat show, Mr Schwarzenegger, now commanding some of the biggest pay packets in Hollywood, said: "This movie is a ten." But critics are not so sure. *Time* magazine ran a piece on the summer movie war under the headline: "The Dinosaur and the Dog." And *The Hollywood Reporter* compared *Last Action Hero* to such disasters as *Howard the Duck* and *Hudson Hawk*. Like MCA, almost every business sector of Sony has been mobilised in a company-wide synergy push to promote *Last Action*. But in its first weekend it has taken only a disappointing \$15.3 million. Any failure for Mr Schwarzenegger, would spoil a promising track record for Sony and Peter Guber, the chairman and chief executive of its film-making arm. Sony bought Mr Guber's company for \$200 million as part of its strategy when paying almost \$5 billion for the studios of Columbia and TriStar in 1989. Mr Guber is now ranked the fourth most important Hollywood executive and his talents are said to include a salesman's tongue which would sell sushi to the Japanese.

Films and records now account for around a fifth of Sony's total revenues and they rose 25 per cent last year to \$3.3 billion when the Japanese recession took the electronics giant into loss for the second consecutive year.

It was not alone. Matsushita had the worst year in its history with a 71 per cent drop in net income and financial scandals which saw the resignation of Akio Tanii, its chairman. Film revenues inched forward 3 per cent. But *Jurassic* could catapult Universal into first place in the market share table. After the first weekend's record, it was only \$88 million behind Warner Brothers, the current leader, and lags third place Sony by \$63 million. Universal held second place in 1989, but poor performances pushed it towards the bottom of the top ten studio rankings.

So the summer battle lines are drawn. In the Sony corner is the 212 pound 6 ft, 2 in 45-year-old Mr Schwarzenegger, with some big guns, playing alongside an 11-year-old boy. Playing the hero for Matsushita is the 200 pound, 7 ft high model of a 50-million-year-old carnivorous Velociraptor (pronounced veh-LOSS-4-rap-ri), conceived in a factory suburb of Los Angeles and operated by 20 puppeteers and \$1.7 million worth of computer software.

Its party tricks include spitting out a severed limb after eating one man alive, feasting on cattle and goats and devouring another, shuddering man which, while not seen in full, is rounded off with some bone crunching noises on the soundtrack. Critics say it is a relentless thrill a minute.

Leaden skies over TSB

THE first half figures from TSB Group only serve to emphasise the long journey the bank faces out of its financial wreckage. The bank's decision earlier this year to hive off £1.6 billion of Hill Samuel's worst debts into a loan administration unit may have cleaned up the merchant bank's figures, but it has left the rest of the group with a ball and chain which it will carry for years.

While Sir Nicholas Goodison says the group's £205 million bad debt provision should not be compared to last year, it is hard to ignore the fact that the group is making new provisions almost as fast as it is writing off old ones. Recoveries will be hard to come by, even though the group now has provisions worth 8.2 per cent of its total loan book, several times higher than the other clearers.

Bad debt provisions will eventually fall to

more normal levels, and then TSB could make profits of more than £500 million a year. Beyond that, however, there is no real impetus in the bank. Hill Samuel has been cauterised into a modest corporate finance and asset management operation. Neither do TSB's retail operations, which suffered a 6 per cent fall in profits before bad debts, seem to be progressing anywhere. While insurance operations are still expanding, their growth cannot support the entire group.

The shares are periodically enlivened by talk of a continental bid, but it is almost impossible to spot an institution with the resources to fund a £3.5 billion bid that would be prepared to take on the uncertainties of the loan administration unit and the mortgage book. Until something radical happens, the shares, like the bank, will lack direction.

SNC

THE recent performance of Smith New Court gives the lie to the oft-repeated theory that the future of the securities market belongs to the largest international houses which can call on almost limitless capital resources.

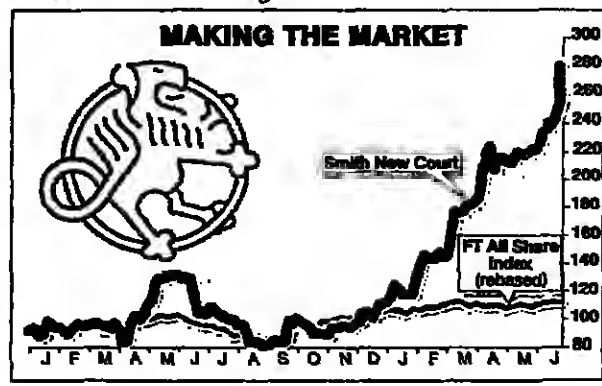
Smith has survived and prospered, even though its capital fell as low as £74 million in 1989. The firm has a fine sense of market risk which it combines with the sort of cost control that was once common among stock-jobbing partnerships but is now a rarity.

In the past four years the group has reduced its reliance on profits from its traditional market-making and expanded its commission income and corporate advisory business. Even the firm's involvement with the Mirror Group float has

failed to dent its popularity among companies in need of equity finance.

Smith's capital still looked meagre. The firm made a return on equity of 28 per cent last year, which shows how hard it made its capital work and how close it must have been to prudential limits. The complexity of international settlement obligations

Smith to have the capacity to handle large equity stakes. Given the remarkable rise in its shares, it would have been churlish for Smith to decline the chance to tap the market for funds. Even so, Smith operates in a volatile business and with the shares yielding only 2.6 per cent it is difficult to justify any further rise.



Lonrho

THE first half-term report on Dieter Bock as joint chief executive of Lonrho might well read "so far, so good". Herr Bock cannot claim credit for the recent rise in precious metal prices and higher metal production that were in train before he assumed his post and which lifted operating profits to £57 million. Nor can he take a bow for the £53 million profit on sale of motor businesses, which created most of the growth at the pre-tax line.

Instead, his touch is evident in the group's improving financial position. The recent sale of the loss-making Observer and the exit from German property interests have immediately given Lonrho greater stability. Net borrowings are now below £500 million, and gearing dropped to 35 per cent. Operating interest cover is still less than two times but the interest bill is £11 million lower and due to fall further in the second half, enhancing the prospects for profits and cashflow.

Lonrho shares, responding to Herr Bock's touch, have

climbed more than 70 per cent since last December and rose 7p yesterday to 120½p. They still trade on 9.8 times earnings, however, and a prospective 4.2 per cent yield on an unchanged 4p dividend, as well as a 23 per cent discount to net assets. The ride with Bock has further to go.

TI Group

BARELY a year after its £518 million acquisition of Dowty, TI Group is busy shaping the once-diverse business into a market leader in aerospace engineering. The group's proposed landing gear joint venture with Snecma will have an untestable 40 per cent of an expanding market.

The tie has the look of second prize for TI. The City hoped the group would buy CFC in America, making it a substantial supplier to Boeing, but TI was outbid by Goodrich. Nevertheless, the joint venture has much to recommend it, although details are still scarce. The combined company will be the dominant Airbus supplier although Boeing work will still be minimal. TI is likely to be

the senior partner in the relationship since it is appointing both the chief executive and finance director. Messier-Bugatti is peripheral to Snecma's main aero-engine business, and it is more possible that TI will eventually be offered full ownership.

With landing gear operations now dealt with, TI must address the future of Dowty's propeller business. An acquisition may not be far off.

Lucas

STUNG by the impact of its quiet dinner with analysts in Paris last week, when guests left with the remarkable impression that the group would cut its dividend, Lucas has gone to inordinate lengths to report an apologetic analyst visit to its new diesel facility.

Lucas should be applauded for taking the Stock Exchange at its word following the dressing down of London International Group. But if this is a precedent, shareholders could soon be bamboozled with almost weekly despatches. Vital information could then be buried in a forest of waffle.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Rowland to reveal all

AFTER years of nail-biting suspense, fans of Tiny Rowland, enigmatic founder of Lonrho, the pan-African trading group, are to be rewarded with an autobiography. Stung by Tom Bower's recent (unauthorised) life which delved into his German roots, Rowland has put pen to paper and is in the process of churning out what promises to be one of the steamiest, and by the sound of things, more disagreeable reads of recent years. He has drawn up a list of 50 targets he is keen to put under the spotlight. Few will be surprised to learn that Bower is at the top of the list. Michael Howard, home secretary, is also in the firing line, although Lonrho sources are keeping the other names close to their chests. "He will be exploring people who claim to be one thing when they are in fact another," says a Lonrho spokesman. "It's a matter of taking people who appear to be very English and lifting the veil." The theme has a familiar ring to it. Rowland, who was in Khartoum yesterday, has been scribbling away while flying round the world in his Gulfstream G4 executive jet.

Sniffy in Yorkshire

YORKSHIRE Water's attempts this week to set up a "sniffing panel" to test the air around a £34 million sewage plant have gone down like a lead balloon with residents who prefer to trust their own noses. The water company is offering volunteers £5 a session to sniff samples of air

through a machine with flashing lights and buttons. The object of the exercise, says Yorkshire Water, is to demonstrate that a new £2.3 million odour-control system at Scalby Mills, Scarborough, has finally defeated the problem of a recurring "bad egg" smell hanging over the town. Last November, the water company was fined £8,000 by Scarborough magistrates for allowing foul smells to pollute the atmosphere. Yorkshire Water says the sniffing tests are "a serious attempt to make sure the new system is working." But local environmentalists say the system has failed. "We had the bad egg smell again only a few days ago and appeal to people not to indulge in this farce and make themselves look silly," said Freddie Drabble, a spokesman.

Must do better

EIGHT out of ten fund managers read less than half the research they receive, according



"Sorry the sausages were oversubscribed"

Getting their goat

THE old adage that everyone must eat, even during a recession, has proved true for Julian Metcalfe, Harrow-educate chairman of the *Pret à Manger* sandwich chain. Metcalfe, 33, has seen turnover of the London chain leap from £32,000 in 1988 to more than £10 million this year, and is setting his sights further afield. "We are now looking to the Home Counties," says Metcalfe, a former property surveyor. The name *Pret à Manger* — French for Ready to Eat — was bought from a catering company in Hampshire, which had gone bust. Analysis of the 65,000 sandwiches his company churns out each week appears to show Londoners have developed a taste for goats' cheese on walnut bread. "There's definitely a trend towards less meat these days," he says. "Can you imagine trying to sell goats' cheese two years ago?"

JON ASHWORTH

Hardship v. bankruptcy at Lloyd's

From Mr Peter Taylor
Sir, Marie-Louise Burrows suggests in her letter (main letters page, June 18) that hardship can be more onerous than bankruptcy. It is true that the Lloyd's Members Hardship Committee, in issuing a proposal to a Name, may require the Name to make payments out of income. But is this harsher than bankruptcy? In bankruptcy, the Names lose all their income from capital assets immediately, their trustee in bankruptcy would usually apply for an income payment order, in which event the Name would only be entitled to retain out of income what the court considers necessary for meeting the reasonable domestic needs of the Names and their families. In Hardship, the Members Hardship Committee will consider the income and needs of each Name and family on an individual basis and will make a proposal that the Committee considers fair. There is no "set" figure for a married couple as is suggested in Ms Burrows' letter. To ensure equality of treatment there are, however, guidelines relating to the minimum disposable income which should be available.

Invesco investors are real victims of Imro fine

From Mr Angus Carswell
Sir, In recent weeks, the Business section of *The Times* has reported Invesco MIM being fined £750,000 plus costs for 55 breaches of FSA rules. At last, Imro has used its powers under Financial Services Act 1986. However, is a £2.3 million bill appropriate? It does not protect the investors with holdings in MIM since the fine has to come from company profits. The directors have got away

scot-free. Would it not be more appropriate if the directors were fined from their own pockets?

Directors can easily change their job (with their financial well-being unaffected), leaving innocent investors to pay the bill for their errors.

Yours sincerely,
ANGUS CARSWELL
(Finance and Geography student, the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow),
Jock's Hill,
Linthgow,
West Lothian.

BRITISH COAL CORPORATION

Licensing of Closed Collieries

British Coal invites offers for licensing the working of coal and the use of associated facilities at each of the collieries named below. Decisions by British Coal to grant a licence in respect of each such colliery will be made on a colliery by colliery basis and separate offers are invited. Specific proposals for non-mining uses will also be given due consideration.

The collieries for which offers are invited are Vane Tempest, Sesham, County Durham; Westoe, South Shields, Tyne and Wear; Grimethorpe-Houghton Main, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, and Trentham, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

Expressions of interest must be received by July 16, 1993, either in writing to:

British Coal Corporation,
Licensing of Closed Collieries,
Eastwood Hall, Eastwood,
Nottinghamshire NG16 5EB.
Fax No: 0773 532709

or by telephone on the following numbers:

Vane Tempest Colliery	0773 532710
Westoe Colliery	0773 532710
Grimethorpe-Houghton Main Colliery	0773 532711
Trentham Colliery	0773 532712

and subsequently confirmed in writing.

British Coal reserves the right not to consider expressions of interest received after July 16, 1993. Parties who have expressed an interest in making an offer in respect of a particular colliery will be provided with a Preliminary Information Pack containing outline information on the colliery, an application form, a letter of undertaking and the terms of a £10,000 security deposit/bond, together with details of the licensing process and timetable.

Detailed information on the relevant colliery and draft tender documentation will subsequently be provided to any party which satisfies the requirements specified in the Preliminary Information Pack, which include entering into the letter of undertaking and the provision of the security deposit/bond.

The receipt of an offer will not create any obligation or commitment on the part of British Coal to enter into any negotiations or to grant a licence.

Enquiries about the procedures set out in this advertisement should be made in writing to the above address or by telephone on the numbers listed opposite.

British COAL

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION

FT-SE VOLUMES									
ASDA GP	9,300	Cadbury	1,500	M&B Cards	571	Scott Power	1,100	New York (midday)	
Ashtley Naul	1,300	Carlton C	500	M&B Cards	571	Scott Power	1,100	Don Jones	3476.71 (+0.94)
Adlity-Lyons	1,000	Coas Vly	5,400	NFC	1,200	Sven Trans	3,500	P&S Composite	444.71 (-1.52)
Anglian W	200	Con Unlon	6,800	NarWst Bk	1,900	Shell Trans	3,500	Tokyo	
Argyll GP	3,000	Courtside	729	NarWst Bk	1,900	Shell Trans	3,500	Nikkei Ave	1965.07 (-192.59)
Ashtley Naul	1,300	De La Rue	1,100	NarWst Bk	1,900	Shell Trans	3,500	Hong Kong	
Ashtley Naul	1,300	Enterprise	400	NarWst Bk	1,900	Shell Trans	3,500	Hang Seng	Closed
BAA	269	Fenore	6,900	P & O	3,100	Sun Alliance	1,400	Amsterdam	
B&A	1,800	GRE	4,400	Pearson	1,500	Sun Alliance	1,400	AMS Tendency	110.3 (-0.6)
B&A	1,800	GUS A	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500	Sydney AO	1697.1 (-0.9)
B&A	1,800	GUS B	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500	Frankfurt	
B&A	1,800	GUS C	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500	DAX	1666.29 (-3.10)
B&A	1,800	GUS D	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS E	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS F	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS G	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS H	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS I	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS J	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS K	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS L	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS M	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS N	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS O	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS P	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS Q	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS R	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS S	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS T	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS U	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS V	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS W	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS X	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS Y	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS Z	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AA	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AB	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AC	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AD	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AE	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AF	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AG	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AH	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AI	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AJ	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AK	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AL	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AM	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AN	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AO	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AP	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AQ	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AR	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AS	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AT	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AU	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AV	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AW	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AX	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AY	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS AZ	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BA	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BB	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BC	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BD	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BE	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BF	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BG	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BH	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BI	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BJ	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BK	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BL	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BM	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BN	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BO	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BP	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BQ	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BR	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BS	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BT	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BU	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BV	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BW	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BX	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BY	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS BZ	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CA	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CB	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CC	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CD	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CE	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CF	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CG	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CH	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CI	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CJ	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CK	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CL	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CM	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CN	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CO	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CP	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CQ	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CR	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CS	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CT	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CU	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CV	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CW	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CX	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CY	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS CZ	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DA	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DB	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DC	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DD	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DE	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DF	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DG	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DH	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DI	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DJ	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DK	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DL	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DM	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DN	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DO	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DP	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DQ	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DR	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DS	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DT	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DU	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DV	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DW	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DX	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DY	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS DZ	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS EA	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS EB	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS EC	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS ED	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS EE	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS EF	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS EG	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS EH	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS EI	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS EJ	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS EK	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS EL	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS EM	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS EN	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS EO	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS EP	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&A	1,800	GUS EQ	437	PowerGen	370	Ti Gp	1,500		
B&									

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Losses trimmed at close

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began June 21. Dealings end July 2. Settlement day July 5. Forward margins are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Barclays Bank	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	HSBC Bank	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	London City	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Midland Bank	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	NatWest Bank	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Paragon Bank	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Prudential	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Royal Bank	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Santander	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	TSB Bank	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

DRAPERY, STORES

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Debenhams	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Debenhams	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Debenhams	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Debenhams	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Debenhams	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Financial Trusts	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Financial Trusts	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Financial Trusts	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Financial Trusts	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

FOODS

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Food Products	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Food Products	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Food Products	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Food Products	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

HOTELS, CATERERS

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Hotels & Caterers	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Hotels & Caterers	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Hotels & Caterers	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Hotels & Caterers	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

INDUSTRIALS

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Industrial Group	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Industrial Group	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Industrial Group	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Industrial Group	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

BREWERIES

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Breweries	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Breweries	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Breweries	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Breweries	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Breweries	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

BUILDING, ROADS

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Building & Roads	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Building & Roads	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Building & Roads	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Building & Roads	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

ELECTRICALS

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Electricals	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Electricals	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Electricals	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Electricals	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

BUSINESS SERVICES

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Business Services	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Business Services	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Business Services	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Business Services	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

ELECTRICITY

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Electricity	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Electricity	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Electricity	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Electricity	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

FINANCE, LAND

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Finance & Land	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Finance & Land	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Finance & Land	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Finance & Land	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Chemicals & Plastics	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Chemicals & Plastics	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Chemicals & Plastics	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Chemicals & Plastics	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

LEISURE

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Leisure	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Leisure	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Leisure	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Leisure	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

INSURANCE

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Insurance	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Insurance	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Insurance	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Insurance	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

PAPER, PRINT, ADVTG

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Paper, Print, Advtg	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Paper, Print, Advtg	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Paper, Print, Advtg	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Paper, Print, Advtg	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

PROPERTY

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Property	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Property	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Property	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Property	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

SHOES, LEATHER

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Shoes, Leather	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Shoes, Leather	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Shoes, Leather	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Shoes, Leather	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Motors, Aircraft	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Motors, Aircraft	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Motors, Aircraft	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Motors, Aircraft	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

TEXTILES

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Textiles	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Textiles	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Textiles	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Textiles	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

TOBACCO

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Tobacco	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Tobacco	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Tobacco	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Tobacco	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

TRANSPORT

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Transport	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Transport	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Transport	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Transport	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

WATER

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Water	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Water	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Water	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Water	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

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For details please contact Janet Dobson, London Business School, Sussex Place, Regent's Park, London, NW1 4SA. Tel: (071) 262 5050; Fax: (071) 724 3317

MINING

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Mining	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Mining	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Mining	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Mining	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Investment Trusts	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Investment Trusts	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Investment Trusts	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Investment Trusts	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

LONGS (over 15 years)

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Longs	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Longs	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Longs	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Longs	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
115.00	114.50	Mediums	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Mediums	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Mediums	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5
115.00	114.50	Mediums	114.75	0.00	4.50	12.5

SHORTS (under 5 years)

115	PowerShares	115	+3	8.6	5.3	46	220	221	Prudential & Lloy	244	...	12.0	...	24.3	
115	Proquest Inc	115	...	0.7	5.1	0.1	91	44	EPRI Inc	71	41	...	4.2	12.0	...
115	Proquest Inc	115	...	0.7	5.1	0.1	91	44	EPRI Inc	71	41	...	4.2	12.0	...
115	Proquest Inc	115	...	0.7	5.1	0.1	91	44	EPRI Inc	71	41	...	4.2	12.0	...
115	Proquest Inc	115	...	0.7	5.1	0.1	91	44	EPRI Inc	71	41	...	4.2	12.0	...
115	Proquest Inc	115	...	0.7	5.1	0.1	91	44	EPRI Inc	71	41	...	4.2	12.0	...
115	Proquest Inc	115	...	0.7	5.1	0.1	91	44	EPRI Inc	71	41	...	4.2	12.0	...
115	Proquest Inc	115	...	0.7	5.1	0.1	91	44	EPRI Inc	71	41	...	4.2	12.0	...
115	Proquest Inc	115	...	0.7	5.1	0.1	91	44	EPRI Inc	71	41	...	4.2	12.0	...
115	Proquest Inc	115	...	0.7	5.1	0.1	91	44	EPRI Inc	71	41	...	4.2	12.0	...
115	Proquest Inc	115	...	0.7	5.1	0.1	91	44	EPRI Inc	71	41	...	4.2	12.0	...
115	Proquest Inc	115	...	0.7	5.1	0.1	91	44	EPRI Inc	71	41	...	4.2	12.0	...
115	Proquest Inc	115	...	0.7	5.1	0.1	91	44	EPRI Inc	71	41	...	4.2	12.0	...
115	Proquest Inc	115	...	0.7	5.1	0.1	91	44	EPRI Inc	71	41	...	4.2	12.0	...
115	Proquest Inc	115	...	0.7	5.1	0.1	91	44	EPRI Inc	71	41	...	4.2	12.0	...
115	Proquest Inc	115	...	0.7	5.1	0.1	91	44	EPRI Inc	71	41	...	4.2	12.0	...
115	Proquest Inc	115	...	0.7	5.1	0.1	91	44	EPRI Inc	71	41	...	4.2	12.0	...
115	Proquest Inc	115	...	0.7	5.1	0.1	91	44	EPRI Inc	71	41	...	4.2	12.0	...
115	Proquest Inc	115	...	0.7	5.1	0.1	91	44	EPRI Inc	71	41	...	4.2	12.0	...
115	Proquest Inc	115	...	0.7	5.1	0.1	91	44	EPRI Inc	71	41	...	4.2	12.0	...
115	Proquest Inc	115	...	0.7	5.1	0.1	91	44	EPRI Inc	71	41	...	4.2	12.0	...
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Survival of the fittest

Five years from now more than 60 per cent of all public sector information technology work could be in private hands. Fifteen government departments and agencies are involved in market testing worth an estimated £750 million. The Inland Revenue alone is contracting out 2,000 computing jobs.

This makes a career in public sector IT an uncertain prospect and could mark the end of an era. The public sector has always been a good training ground for IT professionals and often provided an opportunity to work on the kind of systems that — because of the nature or scale of operations — were not available elsewhere. A post at a government IT department used to be regarded as relatively secure, if not a job for life. In many cases it was a stepping stone to a more lucrative career in the private sector. Training was varied and of high quality, but

There is a rocky road ahead for public sector computing jobs, David Guest says

salaries for experienced staff rarely matched those outside. Today, the differences are not so pronounced. Although there is less movement in the job market generally, staff turnover from public to private sector has been dramatically reduced. One reason for this is that, with an improvement in public sector salaries, these jobs have the advantage of better terms and conditions.

Training is also a key element. Government departments' IT sections move staff into new areas every two to three years, and give them the appropriate extra training.

Now, in the face of contracting out, public sector IT managers are anxious to boost the morale of their troops. The first large central

government department to contract out its entire IT function was the Northern Ireland Civil Service (NICS), in a five-year deal worth £20 million with CFM, the facilities management subsidiary of ICL. Service providers insist that if they take over government systems they will take on government staff as well, because the people who developed the systems are the best people to maintain them.

"Sensitivity of staff is always a major issue," says CFM Northern Ireland general manager Robert Bailes. "Any outsourcing company must pay a lot of attention to the personnel issues after the market testing phase, which can last 18 months."

But the test will come when a third-party has three or four con-

tracts with government departments. How many staff will automatically be transferred then?

"We believe that career prospects can be made better if management has the right focus on new high technology business," says Mr Bailes.

The Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) regulations are designed to guarantee the rights of an individual under these circumstances, but some of the benefits of a civil service job are not written down, and the regulations only apply for the first year. "For the foot soldier, the future is uncertain," says Michael Bradbury, manager of the government services division of recruitment agency Computer People.

But one observer is more direct: "The senior people have the ability to move deeper into the civil service when they see the axe being swung, but the rest of the staff won't have those choices."



Uncertain future: Inland Revenue staff have to compete with outside agencies for computing work

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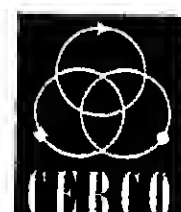
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INFOTECH

Judging a game by its rating

CDs have helped to start a multi-billion dollar game that everyone wants to play. Steve May reports

Sega's decision to submit its latest offering, *Night Trap*, to the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC) is powerful evidence of the growing sophistication of video game technology.

That the board should have recently deemed it unsuitable for youngsters under 15 is an indication of the conundrum now facing both Britain's entertainment software industry and the overseers of film and video.

Night Trap is different from other Sega games in that it features moving video footage rather than computer-generated sprites — an advance made possible because the game comes on a compact disc rather than a conventional cartridge.

Unlike a cartridge, which can store only about two megabytes of data code, a CD can carry 500 megabytes. Using clever compression techniques, CD-based games can exploit this capacity and mix video material with computer graphics to dramatically heighten the realism of any computer game.

Night Trap actually contains nothing that much more explicit than can be seen on *Star Trek*. The rating it has received is more of an admonishment for its subject matter — young girls threatened by slaving alien abductors — rather than any graphic bloodletting. Toys 'R' Us has refused to stock it.

It does, however, serve as a crude indication of what is to come. Compact disc games herald the long-anticipated coming of mass-market multimedia, a multi-billion dollar game that all the Hollywood studios want to play and in which every major consumer electronics company now has a stake.

But has Sega's early submission to the BBFC, driven by the Video Recordings Act, created a precedent that the software industry will find difficult to live with?

Unlike films, which are a linear viewing experience, a CD-based game or interactive film can have countless branches to explore, infi-



Growing sophistication: a clip taken from Sega's *Night Trap*, which features video footage rather than computer-generated sprites

nite outcomes, and unpeep secret compartments.

An experienced games player can take weeks to explore a two-megabyte game. A 500-megabyte CD-game could take that same adventurer a year. It is difficult to believe that those presently employed by the BBFC will be able to manage to reach level two of *Sonic The Hedgehog*, let alone convincingly vet a sophisticated role-playing CD game.

Given that the BBFC charge by the hour, the cost of certifying huge CD games could prove prohibitive for all but the world's largest software developers.

The video footage for *Night Trap* was actually shot several years ago by Hasbro for a game machine called the *Nemo*, which was never to see the light of day. It is hardly state-of-the-art.

That honour presently falls to Virgin Games' *The 7th Guest*, a newly-released, interactive haunted house mystery supplied on two CD ROM discs for IBM personal

computers and compatibles. Comprising more than 1,000 megabytes of code — the equivalent of 3,000 floppies — it is the best example yet of the way video games technology and multimedia techniques are colliding.

Set in an archetypal old house, the story centres around the dreadful fate of six guests drawn by the promise of wealth and power. The player guides an on-screen persona through the house with the help of a mouse controller.

Unlike lesser games, however, the house does not simply scroll past like a redundant cartoon; instead you move three dimensionally through photo-realistic rooms. The house is populated by digitised actors.

The production employed seven principals and 15 extras, all of whom were shot against a blue screen. This footage was then digitised and mixed against the computer-generated backgrounds.

It is virtual reality without the headset, so should it be classified?

"That has been under discussion internally," says Steve Clark, Virgin's media manager. "But is the BBFC really qualified to judge it? We'll be looking at guidelines to be issued by the European Leisure Software Publishers Association before any moves are made."

This trade body is widely expected to advocate self-regulation for the computer software industry, although Sega has pre-empted it by announcing its own classification system for both CD ROM and cartridge games. The Sega system will mirror the BBFC's ratings of U, PG, 15 and 18.

But is self-regulation an option available by law? James Ferman, the BBFC director, has his doubts.

"Games must be certified if they contain scenes of torture, sex, or gross violence toward humans or animals, whether in film form or computer graphics. They should also be certified if they contain video footage or footage from a

feature film already certified." Given this definition, it would seem that most video games — which feature scenes of outrageous, albeit cartoon, violence — may contravene the Act.

Philips is at the forefront of this emerging multimedia technology. Its CD-I interactive system will be bolstered this autumn with a full motion video upgrade, allowing a new generation of fully interactive CD software to be produced, much of which will contain full-screen, full-motion video sequences.

One such title is an interactive version of *The Joy of Sex*. "Philips's intention is to offer all CD-I titles containing full screen, full-motion video to the BBFC for certification," the company says. "The problem comes with CD titles that are neither video nor computer graphics, but a mix of both."

If Britain's Video Recordings Act is not to go the way of the Hays Code in America, the BBFC chiefs will need to go on a new technology crash course.

Fresh strategy needed at Bull

France is stopping its state aid and aims to sell off the computer company

Trying to interest Americans in computers from a French company can be as difficult as selling Californian wine to the French, admits Bernard Pache, chief executive of Bull.

The American desire to buy home-produced products is particularly fierce in information technology and, with the US still the world's largest single market for such products, European IT companies are desperately trying to achieve a global image.

But Bull has more pressing problems than most. M Pache has the unenviable task of trying to turn round the troubled and loss-making French computer firm extremely quickly. Over the past three years it has cut the number of employees by more than a quarter — a process, M Pache says, that will have to continue. Over the past decade Bull has swallowed more than Fr15 billion (£1.8 billion) of state aid to little beneficial effect for a government that owns 72 per cent of the company. State-owned France Telecom owns a further 16 per cent.

Gerard Longuet, the industry minister in the new conservative French government, has made it clear that no more state cash will be forthcoming.

Instead, the government has added Bull to a list of 21 state-controlled companies due to be privatised and M Longuet has indicated that commercial partnerships are likely to be the key to Bull's survival. Specifically he recommended that Bull finds a partner in the PC market and explores the possibility of further links with the Japanese firm, NEC, which owns about 5 per cent of Bull. IBM has a similar stake.

This week Bull took the first step with the announcement that it will increase its presence in America by buying nearly one-fifth of the privately-owned US company Packard Bell which manufactures cheap personal computers.

Packard Bell has been credited with pioneering the mass market for PCs in the United States by selling machines with software applications already loaded, making the machines able to run right out of the box.

Bull already has what M Pache describes as a US "vineyard" in the form of its subsidiary Zenith Data Systems (ZDS), which produces portable and desktop machines.

It has given Bull a significant entry into providing equipment for the US government, which is ZDS's largest customer. M Pache says he is particularly proud that the primary supplier for a contract with the US Air Force, worth nearly £500 million, is the subsidiary of a French company.

The deal with Packard also calls for ZDS to supply it with private-label versions of ZDS's notebook computers to expand Packard Bell's line into what is the fastest-growing segment of the market.

What worries some, however, is that the need for a quick fix to Bull's problems means that there is little attention being paid to the sort of long-term research and development that rivals are doing.

Better links with Japanese companies could end up being a double-edged sword. Bull analysts say, is like Britain's ICL used to be. Compared with Bull now, however, ICL is a gleaming success story, having managed to report small profits at a time when losses have been the most common financial result for computer companies.

But for the past three years ICL has been Japanese-owned. Fujitsu has an 80 per cent stake. If that is the price of survival without government assistance, then the French may have to get used to giving up any idea of owning an indigenous computer industry.

MATTHEW MAY



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Funded by the European Community, the Onomastics project aims to derive pronunciations for up to a million names in nine languages primarily for use by telephone companies. The centre is on 031 650 2772.

Apple turnover
JOHN SCULLEY is stepping down as chief executive of Apple Computer, but will remain chairman. Apple's board appointed Michael Spindler to the position of president and chief executive, at Mr Sculley's recommendation.

Mr Sculley's move comes amid Wall Street speculation that Apple will lay off 5 to 10 per cent of its workforce. Mr Sculley suggested recently that Apple and IBM should merge.

Star line

TAIWAN is to invest in a £2.6 billion plan by the telecommunications firm Motorola to establish a global satellite telephone system. Motorola's plan, known as the Iridium project, envisages launching 66 satellites.

The system is expected to start operating in 1998.

On to a winner

COMPUTER games firm, US Gold, which is based in Birmingham, has been licensed to produce the only "official" computer, video and compact disc game for the Winter Olympics to be held in Lillehammer, Norway, next February. The game will cover ten of the winter sports, include opening and closing ceremonies and will be sold in eight languages. The same company sold £30 million-worth of Olympic Gold, a video game of the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.

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Keeping track: John Goldsmith, Docklands Light Railway manager, finds the computer network helps him to rapidly assess and respond to problems in the field

Found — the missing link

Companies that want to succeed in a fast-moving commercial market must keep one step ahead of the competition, monitoring and responding immediately to any changes. Computer networks are seen as one way to make this possible.

"A network shrinks time and distance," says Peter Cook, marketing director of managed network services for AT&T Europe. "It can let you distribute your production globally, to the cheapest and best location where tasks can be done most efficiently, irrespective of time zones or travelling costs."

In the past, computer networks were hierarchical. Dumb terminals were linked to powerful mini or mainframe computers, which retained control of programs and data while restricting access from terminals.

Now, with low-cost personal computers, individual staff can run routine programs from their desktop, only linking to their hosts, or "servers", for access to shared files and specialised software.

This arrangement, known as "client server" computing, is well suited to the flatter management structures of the 1990s.

Computer networks speed up operations, bringing distant staff into the fold and spreading the workload. Jane Bird reports

One company that is implementing an advanced computer network is the Docklands Light Railway in London. When it was first introduced four years ago, the network was used by only a handful of staff in stores, purchasing and finance, for tasks such as wordprocessing and spreadsheets.

Sharing software on the network meant that only half the number of licenses were required while expensive peripherals, such as laser printers, could be available to many more people.

Now the DLR network has some 180 terminals used by staff at every level, from office juniors to members of the board. One of the biggest spurs to the network's usage came when the train control room was connected.

John Goldsmith, DLR's network manager, says: "This meant that staff in operations and maintenance could have direct information about what was happening on the tracks. They could then achieve a much quicker response on rostering or repairs."

Networking lets people collaborate and share electronic files, however far apart they may be. When DLR's projects department moved to an office two miles away, staff at the two sites continued to communicate with each other by sending memos and project documentation down the telephone line. Soon the network will handle the company's entire database.

Developing a network is, however, no easy task. Many companies have a legacy of different PCs acquired over the years. Getting them to speak to each other can be fraught with difficulty. There is also an increasing volume of traffic. Today's applications, such as graphical screens and video-conferencing, are more data intensive than earlier generations of software.

But the biggest problem is reliability — running a business over a network makes it extremely vulnerable to technical faults. A recent study of top American companies showed that internal networks failed on average 24 times a year,

costing almost £3.5 million in lost productivity.

One of the industry's answers is what it calls structured cabling. Peter Wong, a director of Intelligent Networks, which supplies networking systems, says: "In the past, PCs have been linked together rather like daisy chains. If one link became faulty, the whole chain would be inoperable."

Structured cabling allows them to be wired together in a star shape, like the spokes of a bicycle wheel. At the centre is an electronic hub that handles communications to the server. If one spoke develops a fault, the hub simply disconnects it and alerts the network manager to the fact that there is a problem.

Structured wiring can also mean that PCs from different manufacturers can be hooked into the network at any desk.

This facility is invaluable because most organisations frequently need to move staff and their equipment. Rewiring the computer

network whenever a member of staff changes desk is expensive — a survey by the Gartner Group in the United States puts it at nearly £1,000 for each employee move.

The bulk of the activity so far has been in local area networks where potentially hundreds of terminals can be linked together on one site. The next step is to interconnect the terminals over long distances, a wide area network, by leasing lines from telecom operators such as BT or Mercury.

Alternatively, users can buy time on a national or international network from a managed network service provider.

One other potential advantage of computer networks is to create the paperless office. Once employees can communicate electronically with each other, as well as customers and suppliers, there should be no need for bulging filing cabinets and overflowing in-trays.

Mr Goldsmith believes, however, that time is still far away. "The network hasn't cut down on the amount of paperwork at DLR," he says. "People just print out the computer files."

● The Networks 93 exhibition will take place at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham from June 29-July 1.

Dawn of a cordless computer office

Data is sent by radio or infra-red links from an antenna connected to each PC

There are few office workers who would not welcome the wireless company computer. Despite the best efforts of installers, cables often multiply into an ugly and dangerous tangle above and below desks. Once systems are in place, the prospect of untangling this untidy jumble can be a big hurdle to moving staff or rearranging desks.

A handful of companies have developed cordless network systems that transmit data between personal computers (PCs) without the use of standard cabling. Data is sent by radio or infra-red links from an antenna connected to each PC.

They say that such "cordless" networks — which cost up to three times that of a standard cabled system — will be invaluable in locations where cabling is inappropriate, such as hospitals, factories and listed buildings. Until recently, such systems have been hampered by uncertainty over radio waveband allocations. The Department of Trade and Industry has now begun to approve bandwidth allocations.

NCR has introduced the Wavelan system, which has been available in

America since 1990. To create this type of network, users connect a PC card and antenna unit to each PC, at a cost of £700. This compares with around £250 when connecting PCs to conventional wired networks.

NCR claims that PCs connected by radio link can be up to 100 metres apart in an open-plan office. The company is also developing a wide area network option enabling links of up to five miles, which should go on sale later this year.

Justin van der Land, NCR's network systems marketing manager, says that making cash-tills moveable is an obvious application, "but it is not a niche product: it is equally suitable for small-scale local networks".

The NCR system uses what is known as spread spectrum technology, the most widely used approach to wire-less networks and originally developed in the 1950s for secure military communication.

Another such supplier is California Microwave, which has con-

tracted ICL to install a test system at a Marks & Spencer store in West London. The system is used to link cash tills to a central computer and has, according to M&S, reduced transaction errors. M&S says it makes it much easier to reorganise the layout of a store because wiring is at a minimum. The system is to be installed in 50 other stores.

Olivetti has also announced a wire-less system — Net Cubed. It is based on a cordless telephony standard known as DECT that has also spawned cordless home and office telephone systems. The company says the system is ideal for buildings in which cabling is difficult, such as those with thick walls.

Olivetti says the network can operate over an area of 85,000 square feet and has a transmitting range of up to 100 yards. The company is also developing a

small unit to attach to portable and notebook computers so that such users can link into the wire-less network whenever they are in the vicinity.

Meanwhile, critics of this type of system argue that it is only partially wire-less because it still requires a cabled building and is more a means of linking networks rather than PCs on the network.

In contrast to this, spread spectrum systems allow the creation of what is known as peer-to-peer networks in which each device has the same level of priority and can send or receive data from any other device. This encourages "work-group" computing, which is beginning to shape new software developments with the arrival of packages that allow small groups of project workers to work collectively on a wide range of PC-generated files and documents.

John Elliot, of GCO Research Labs, an independent test house, says: "I would look at the speed with which they transfer data, the possible effects of interference, and possible security problems." He says he would also want to know exactly how well each system copes with obstacles such as partitions and walls of varying thickness. NCR and Olivetti say their systems can handle walls so long as they do not contain any metal.

KEN YOUNG

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مركز الحاسب



No horseplay please: Graham Wilkinson says companies need network management to see that their PC systems are being used as intended.

How to prevent a virus

One of the unexpected side effects of the rise of the personal computer network has been the discovery that linking these machines can bring anarchy to an office.

A mini-computer with dedicated terminals is relatively simple to manage, since nobody but the network administrator running the computer can alter the software on the system. But almost every PC comes with a floppy disc drive, and through that have come many problems for local area network users, ranging from viruses to the illegal use and copying of business packages.

Network administration has become an important issue for users of systems large and small, and the software to help in this task has grown in both sophistication and ease of use in recent years.

Modern network administration packages are now often graphical, easily installed and

Good network administration is vital if anarchy in the office is to be avoided, David Hewson reports

simple to understand. They will provide an administrator with graphs and summary reports of a wide range of factors affecting a network, from bottlenecks of data to the usage of packages by individual workstations.

Many now offer better ways of installing software across a network by allowing an administrator to install or update applications in one go, instead of machine by machine.

At a time when companies are concerned about the use of illicit copies of software, administration packages can check on every machine on a network, examine the applications used on them and delete any for which the company does not hold a licence.

According to Graham Wilkinson, marketing director of

the network supplier and consultancy Netland, network administration packages are usually bought by users with networks of 50 workstations or more.

Netland, based in Newmarket, sells to users large and small, including the racing town's own bloodstock agency which has an in-house network and information technology team.

Mr Wilkinson says that larger users are increasingly looking to network management to produce hard evidence that expensive PC systems are being used as they were intended. "A lot of companies have spent considerable amounts of money on computing and it is not always being used properly. Network packages allow you to see when

people log on and when they log off and what they do while they are working."

The technical performance of a network is something which administration packages can manage with ease. Martin Taylor, director of product marketing for Madge Technology, a Buckinghamshire network equipment manufacturer, says that modern networking technology means that performance is unlikely to become a critical issue in a normal, single office network until it has grown to about 150 workstations.

Licence control — making sure that only software which has been paid for is used on an office system — and the prevention of viruses have become as important as performance monitoring.

Many companies now disable or remove the floppy disc drive from networked PCs preventing users from taking data or software off a system or putting anything on to it. This is a sure way of defeating viruses and the spread of software piracy which continue to dog offices, though it can be somewhat draconian.

Smiths Industries is typical of many companies that are moving away from inflexible mainframe-based systems to more user-orientated PC networks. IT managers can no longer dictate to users the kind of systems they should have.

Users are increasingly computer literate and demanding applications that can be held on the hard disc of a PC while at the same time wanting it to be simple to transfer text, graphics and images to other users.

This shift towards users has been most beneficial to companies such as Microsoft and Novell, which sell operating systems for small- and medium-scale networks, shifting the emphasis away from large manufacturers such as IBM and Digital.

Graeme Allen, Novell's marketing director, says: "The trend of large companies to move to more distributed systems has significant implications. No one manufacturer can claim to deliver all of the components of the network, so they have had to get used to working together."

This claim is backed up by a report by the research house, IDC, which found that of 5,000 western European companies polled, one in five said they intended to "downsize" to PC local area networks.

Heavy weather for the despot

Companies are moving to more flexible and user-orientated PC networks.

A network that is made up of cheap personal computers, with a good operating system and which is easy to use, is the vision of Frank White, the director of computer services and telecommunications at Smiths Industries.

Mr White, like many information technology (IT) managers, has had to build a network that makes the most of today's computer technology while solving the needs of several departments with very different business needs.

The answer was a network of 66 PCs connected in clusters with word processing, spreadsheets, databases, electronic organisers and electronic mail available to all users. The driving forces for Mr White were essentially practical. "I wanted the PCs to work the way people want them to, and not the other way around."

With cost controls in mind, Microsoft Windows was selected as the operating system because it took less time to train users on new and existing applications. The company has also installed special software that allows executives to link in remotely and to have access to files from the PC on their office desk.

It is not surprising when you consider that a small, five-person PC network can be bought off-the-shelf for £10,000, and that is including standard applications such as word processing, spreadsheets and electronic mail.

The new atmosphere of hardware and software companies working together is typified by Microsoft's recently launched New Technology, or NT, operating system. Throughout NT's development, Microsoft made sure that software and hardware suppliers had advance copies of the software to ensure that when it was launched there would be software applications and that hardware manufacturers would readily endorse the product.

Many industry pundits believe that while NT will eat into the existing networking market it will also increase the overall size of it. But network managers may have to wait for some time before planning networks around NT.

While NT makes the most of the emerging breed of 32-bit PCs, the penetration of such equipment is so far very small. Networks using powerful desktop systems are naturally leading to a demand to send and receive increasingly large files. In the same way that the M25 motorway reached capacity before its planners predicted, the links between networks are under strain to provide enough capacity.

Users are finding a range of answers to this problem. One approach is to use the new digital ISDN lines offered by BT and Mercury. ISDN is slowly gaining in popularity and BT claims it sold more than 100,000 lines last year — almost double the previous year's sales.

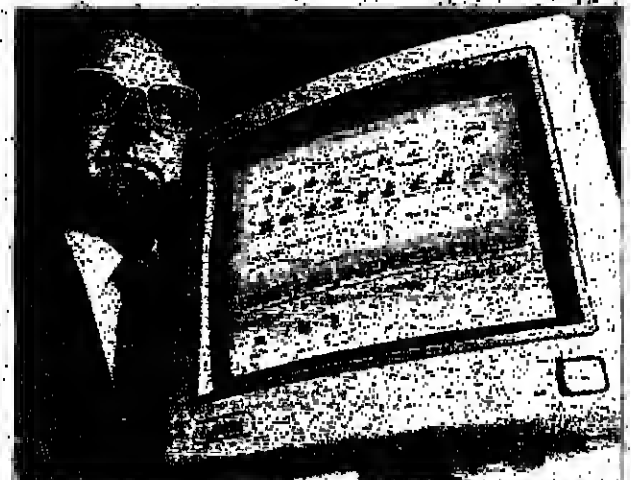
For the most part, ISDN is being used as a back-up or as a means to link local area networks. But it has potential for much more. It can be used to send pictures and even support video-conferencing between groups of PC users.

While ISDN is available nationwide, there are still differences over the specification of ISDN services in different countries, making it a networking technology that has some way to go.

Of surprisingly, companies are looking at running wide networks that are managed by global network operators such as BT, AT&T, US Sprint and Infonet. Such companies claim to provide seamless networking links across international borders, allowing firms to concentrate on core business rather than employ armies of IT professionals.

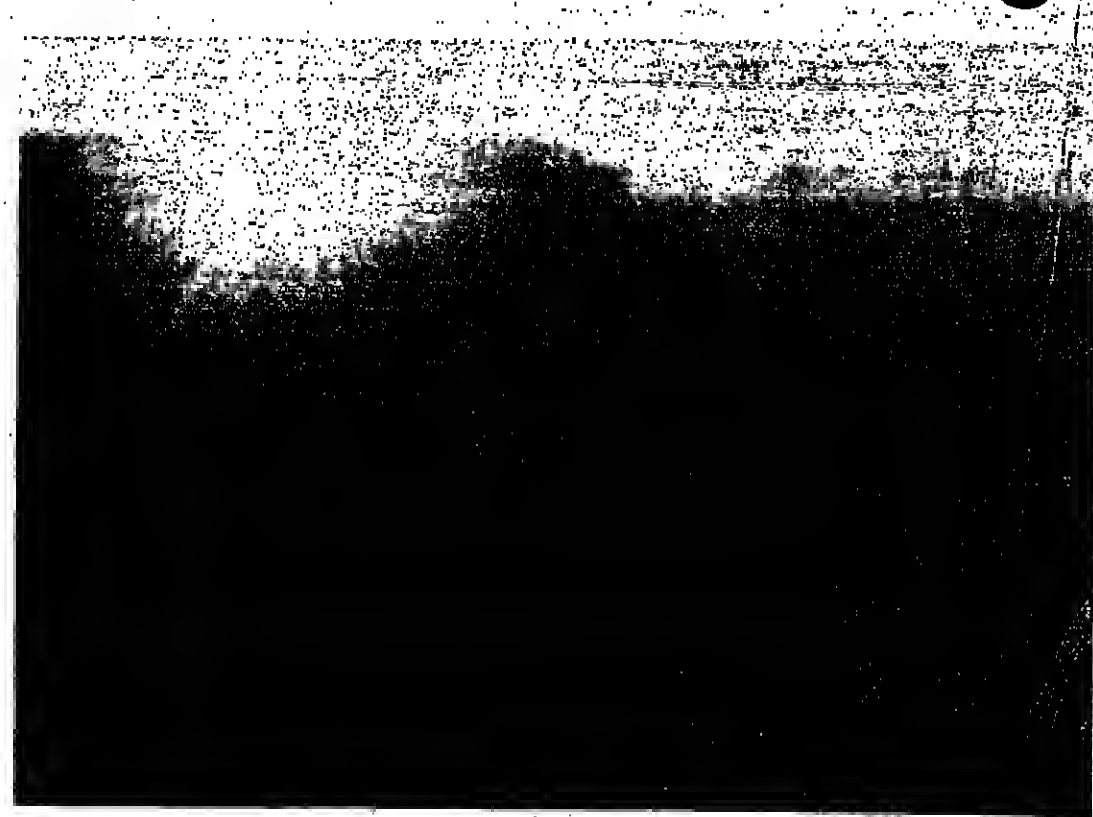
While the potential to set up speedy international networks is growing, the ability to speed up office networks is also moving forward. In practice, this will mean that documents can be transferred in seconds. Most recently, the American-based 3Com demonstrated what is being called fast ethernet — a way of multiplying the speed of a network by a factor of five. Other suppliers are providing ways of linking local area networks into fibre optic "backbones" that provide speedy links between sites.

KEN YOUNG



Making the most of today's technology: Frank White

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THEATRE page 36

Tom Conti is surprisingly
downbeat in the West
End revival of Coward's
Present Laughter

ROCK page 37

Billy Idol: his new album
finds him still peddling
the same old piston-like
riffs after all these years

ARTS

GALLERIES: British landscape painting in the 20th century; plus market news and recommended shows

Painting a place of their own

Richard Cork on a stimulating survey of
modern British artists' powerfully felt
responses to their native surroundings

Setting up his painting equipment on a hill near his Cookham home, Stanley Spencer carefully recorded the facts of the familiar landscape before him. Close to, he defined each particular leaf in a clump of bramble spilling towards the foreground. This almost Pre-Raphaelite zeal for minutiae proved impossible to sustain as his eye travelled further down Cookham Hill, finally coming to rest in the flat, moist meadows by the Thames. But Spencer retained an uncanny clarity even in the most distant stretches of the Berkshire countryside, pinning down the individual identities of trees, hedges and cottages with piercing exactitude.

This is the landscape of consolation, as reassuring as the most placid views Constable produced near his own home in the Stour Valley. Spencer's canvas is the first exhibit in a stimulating survey of British landscape painting at the Bernard Jacobson Gallery, and it stresses the continuity between the two artists. While differing enormously in the handling of paint, they shared an obsessive involvement with rural surroundings cherished since childhood. Both men returned to these locations time and again, revealing a deep emotional dependency on the terrain they knew so well. Although Constable's vision of Dedham is often bolder and more stormy than Spencer's painstaking, even-tempered analysis, they were united by a belief in the healing power of the countryside they loved best. Spencer painted his Cookham view in 1935, at a time of slump at home and gathering unrest abroad. But no hint of turbulence is allowed to disrupt these inviolate fields, which he clearly regarded as a kind of earthly paradise.

If Spencer celebrates the British landscape at its most redemptive, Graham Sutherland often used it as a focus for disquiet. Three years after the Cookham scene was painted, Sutherland produced a small yet awesome image called *Road and Hills in Setting Sun*. Here, exploring the rugged Welsh territory which triggered so much of his finest work, he cast aside the heartening beneficence of his early, Palmer-like etchings. Nature now becomes a source of fear and menace. A blood-red road scythes towards a region where rocky outcrops rear like apparitions in a nightmare, to threaten the lonely, diminutive figure below. As he runs forward, raising his left arm as if to ward off the predatory forms crowding round him, the man seems close to the panic of the victim in Munch's *The Scream*. Landscape is an enemy rather than a comforter, and an acid sense of

agoraphobia poisons the entire painting.

If Spencer and Sutherland typify two extremes of the landscape as a vehicle for emotion, the other exhibits settle somewhere in between. Painting a decade earlier in Cumberland, Ben Nicholson strives for a broken, mildly agitated interpretation of a river bordered by trees. The loosely brushed silhouettes of animals can be glimpsed in the water, but they are hardly more substantial than the straggling strokes summarising the action of light on the river's rippled surface. This gentle motion also runs through the largest tree's branches, as they stretch towards a sky alive with wind-driven clouds. Adopting a deliberately childlike manner, Nicholson sees the countryside as a living, continually altering force.

By 1941, however, flux had given way to an absolute stillness. All discernible references to the landscape are purged from the ordered, geometric stasis of his *Painted Relief*. Projecting slightly from a

pale grey ground, a sober sequence of rectilinear forms proves that Nicholson had by now come to believe in the self-sufficiency of an abstract language. *Painted Relief* is among the most uncompromising British assertions of the 20th-century need for an art no longer reliant on references to the observable world.

But hindsight encourages us to speculate about Nicholson's relationship with nature even here. His subsequent work moved back to an engagement with the landscape, both in Cornwall and elsewhere. So the bleached arrangement of segments in *Painted Relief* may still have originated, on a fundamental level, in a response to the countryside he inhabited.

All the same, the degree of abstraction Nicholson employs here is untypical of the British landscape tradition. So is the calmness of *Painted Relief*'s poised purity. It seems almost clinical when set beside Paul Nash's *Farwell*, an elegiac work infused with his awareness of imminent departure. Nash had barely two years left to live when he painted this tender image in 1944. Although sunlight softens the swollen hills and full-leaved trees, the sensuous mood is countered by a serpentine form writhing in the foreground. Perhaps derived from Nash's long-term fascination with branches, this undulating presence seems to terminate in a raised, snake-like head. The parted mouth may be uttering a cry in the otherwise placid sky. It could signify Nash's own realisation that even the most benign stretch of the English country was threatened by an evil intruder — deriving either from the war or a private awareness of the



Farwell by Paul Nash: an elegiac work infused with awareness of imminent departure. Nash had barely two years to live when he painted this tender image in 1944

growing physical infirmity that led to his premature death.

No such intimations of mortality normally invade Ivon Hitchens's work. He is an exuberant landscapist, tireless in the pursuit of permutations on the theme of his Sussex retreat at Lavington Common. Hitchens must have regarded it as a haven, for he first settled there after his London flat was blitzed in 1940. He never strayed far from it again, devoting himself even more fanatically than Constable or Spencer to the same, sustaining expanse of earth, water and sky. Instinctive high spirits ensured that most of his paintings rejoice in the blustery dynamism of the landscape. But in *Twickenham Mill No.11* an autumnal sobriety tempers his enthusiasm. The hues are muted, and damp. Hitchens's mark-making takes on a cursory roughness, as if to signal the onset of destruction in the natural world. Only the fluidity of the rapid brushwork indicates that succeeding seasons will bring regeneration.

By felicitous hanging, Hitchens is displayed next to David Bomberg. The two painters had a warm regard for each other's work, and Bomberg's *Exmoor, Devon* shares Hitchens's sense of attack. Encouraged by his subject to seek out the primordial structure of the landscape, Bomberg takes a frankly muscular approach. The russet moorland heaves and this, as if undergoing a seismic disturbance, and the few trees stay upright only with difficulty. By 1948, when this tumultuous canvas was executed,

Bomberg was powered by an increasingly galvanic response to his surroundings. He had as little patience with the notion of maintaining a polite distance from the scene as the young Peter Lanyon, whose *Landscape at Trevalgan* erupts from the gallery's end wall like a thunder-clap.

We appear to be hurtling towards dark green fields and black rocks from a vantage far above. Lanyon only began gliding several years after he completed this painting in 1951. But an aerial vision had informed his work ever since he served in the RAF during the war. In *Landscape at Trevalgan*, Lanyon is hungrily bent on seizing his subject from as many different angles as possible, stressing the bulk of the main land-mass while separating it from the picture's edges with thin slices of water or sky. Cornwall's ancient solidity is caught as arrestingly as its vertiginous, edge-of-the-cliff proximity to the sea.

Edward Burra proves that a similar dizziness can be experienced elsewhere in England. His late watercolour, *Near Whitby, Yorkshire*, invites us to follow his gaze down a narrow road towards the far end of a precipitous hill. A misty, pale yellow light flares mysteriously, illuminating the void on either side of the dark promontory. But Burra implies that the true artist must explore the danger ahead, in order to push the painting of landscape as far as its limits will stretch.

● Towards a New Landscape at the Bernard Jacobson Gallery, 14a Clifford Street, London W1 (071-85 8373) until Sept 4

Prize victories in the ring

AUCTION "rings" may be frowned on, but our hard-up museums are routinely using them in order to make the most of their limited purchase grants. Last March Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber was persuaded by the National Portrait Gallery to abstain from bidding on two Crimean war pictures at Christie's. In the event, the National Portrait Gallery bought them for £388,000.

Now the National Museums in Merseyside admit to warning the Victoria and Albert off a rare porcelain figure of a sportsman which came up at Bonhams in London. "We had a very polite discussion with the V&A," said Robin Emmerson, the curator at Liverpool. Whereas the V&A had developed an attachment to the figure when on loan to them over the past 15 years, Emmerson argued that his claim was greater because the figure was made on a site adjacent to his gallery. The V&A stepped down, resulting in the bargain price of £8,580 for Liverpool.

The Auctions (Bidding Agreements) Act of 1927 makes it illegal to offer a "consideration... or reward" for having abstained from bidding at auction: the museums are clearly not guilty of that. The issue is whether, by failing to compete against each other, they have deprived the vendors of their dues.



● Could the art slump be over? Both Sotheby's and Christie's have just held their best London Impressionist sales since the boom peaked in 1989, with Sotheby's total at £20.35 million for 84 works and Christie's at £17.9 million for 48. According to Posenon Sokolow, the art investment firm, the dramatic decline in values of paintings, drawings and watercolours during 1990 and 1991 and the fall which followed is over. They now expect "a sustained rise of art prices during the remaining months of 1993." But they would, wouldn't they?

Hats off to Betty

AFTER the baseball caps of the late Robert Maxwell came the wide-brimmed hats of his wife Betty. On July 13 Christie's will sell 45 of them, including the beige straw number she wore to meet the Queen in 1966 as "the best dressed Labour MP's wife" (Christie's words) and the blue one she wore to her son Kevin's

wedding to Pandora Warnford-Davies (both estimated at £100 to £150).

This, says Christie's, is not a desperate attempt by the beleaguered Maxwell survivors to raise cash. "She feels they are hats for young people," said a spokesman. "She wants them to inspire designers." The collection is estimated at £2,000 to £3,000.

● THE art world's colourful two Roys — Roy Miles and Sir Roy Strong — have been telling London to improve its act. Roy Miles, the Mayfair dealer, says the streets are dirty and should "be washed more often," while wheel-clamping "makes life extremely difficult for customers" and the IRA threat has turned the art world into a deserted "war zone."

Meanwhile, Sir Roy Strong, the flamboyant former director of the V&A, is worried about the threat posed by bombs to the actual art, following the recent outrage at the Uffizi museum in Florence. Chairing a conference at Grosvenor House last week, he urged all those responsible for art to keep duplicate records of any business at home, in case of disaster, and to install splinter-proof glass. "It saved masses of things in the Uffizi," he says.

SARAH JANE CHECKLAND



A colour lithograph made in 1896 by Privat Livemont: one of the works in High Art and Low Life at the V & A

● PHIZ'S 93: The first year of the John Kobal Photographic Portrait Award, an annual event instituted in memory of the indefatigable archivist and author, brought in the amazing total of 2,350 entries from 865 photographers throughout the world. This would seem to indicate that though portrait photography is not a fashionable genre, there is intense interest in it among photographers young and old. Some of the 120 entries on show in the two galleries are confidently traditional and straightforward, but others take advantage of the award's latitude of definition, handling the idea of pictures of people in eccentric and enterprising ways. Zelda Cheadle Gallery, 8 Cecil Court, WC2 (071-836 0506), Tues-Sat 10am-6pm; Angela Flowers Gallery, 5 Silver Place, W1 (071-281 3990) Tues-Fri 10.30am-6.30pm. Both until July 10.

● FOUR GENERATIONS OF THE PISSARRO FAMILY: Even art historians might be hard put to it to name all the artists among Camille Pissarro's descendants. This show, a timely supplement to the Pissarro show at the Royal Academy (which opens next week), puts us wise. Included, as well as Pissarro père, are five sons, of whom only Lucien is well-known, two grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Portland Gallery, 9 Bury St, SW1 (071-321 0422), Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 11am-4pm, until July 31.

● PICK OF THE BUNCH: The Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge is particularly rich in flower and still-life paintings. To help with its current appeal to aid the conservation and cataloguing of all works in this area, the museum has put out a substantial loan

exhibition of paintings and miniatures in the two related genres, representing three centuries and six different national schools. A rare opportunity to see many of the works: two-thirds of the price of the scholarly catalogue (£7.50) goes to the fund. John Mitchell and Sons, 160 New Bond St, W1 (071 493 7567), Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-4pm, until July 15.

● HIGH ART AND LOW LIFE: The *Studio*, the most influential of all British art magazines, was first published in 1893. This show celebrates the centenary with an extraordinary collection of 1890s art and design drawn from the V&A's own collections, including Beardsley drawings and Beerbaum caricatures, and original designs by such key figures as Burne-Jones, Morris, Ashbee and Voysey.

Victoria & Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, SW7 (071-589 6371), Mon, midday-6pm, Tues-Sun, 10am-5.50pm, until Oct 31. ☐

● STARCK: Philippe Starck's work ranges from important architectural and interior design projects to small items such as toothbrushes, computer disc drives, crystal vases and pasta. This retrospective show covers his works in various media from the early Seventies right up to his latest project for extensions to the Peninsula Hotel in Hong Kong. The whole display has, needless to say, been designed by Starck himself. Design Museum, Butler's Wharf, SE1 (071-403 6933), Mon-Fri, 10.30am-5.30pm, Sat, Sun, 10.30am-6.30pm, until Oct 3. ☐

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ROCK ON FRIDAY: Unfurl the tepee and let the good vibes roll .. Billy Idol's future looks like his past ... ATR run riot

Going down to Eavis's farm

Today, tens of thousands of a particularly tenacious breed will descend once more on a Somerset field that is forever fab. David Toop grooves on Glastonbury's glow

Composing a song called "Memory of a Free Festival", back in 1970, David Bowie penned the immortal lines: "We scanned the skies with rainbow eyes and saw machines of every shape and size. We talked with tall Venusians passing through."

Also in 1970, a Somerset dairy farmer named Michael Eavis was sufficiently impressed by the Bath Festival to throw together an outdoor event on his own land at Pilton, near Glastonbury. The late Marc Bolan, still writing songs about angels and unicorns in those days, performed to an audience of 2,000 people and Eavis, though not made wealthy by his financial return, was bitten by the festival bug.

As any festival attendee knows, the bug metaphor is not inappropriate. The clichés of rock festival hardships are too familiar to require rehearsal here, except to say that as time passes, most improvements in catering and sanitary facilities tend to be cancelled out by heinous new developments, of which the introduction of juggling is but a minor example.

My own introduction to the full three-day rite of passage came at the very festival that inspired Eavis. Almost as if scripted by one of the films of the period, I travelled through the night to Bath, riding in the back seat of a white Jaguar. Omitting to pack a sleeping bag, I slept in a barn, thus missing a legendary dawn chorus from Pink Floyd, but still found myself inextricably lodged within a huge crowd for the full three hours of Led Zeppelin. No tall Venusians passed through, although the image of Johnny Winter projected on to a large screen went some way to filling this gap.

Almost a quarter of a century later, the song remains much the same, except that it is now louder, bigger, more fragmented — and more professional. According to Simon Roiser, the affable spokesman for Eavis's festival, Glastonbury has now been granted a licence for 80,000 people.

"Every year, Glastonbury rolls

on like a great juggernaut," he says with what sounds like a tinge of regret. "People like it though. It doesn't put people off that it's so big and dramatic."

Some of the less likely invited performers this weekend, such as Rolf Harris or Wynton Marsalis, may feel they have been catapulted backwards into the film set of *Jabberwocky*. In another festival classic of the hippy era, the Byrds sang of a "strange gathering of tribes", and this still encapsulates the Glastonbury experience.

They want former hippies who are now graphic designers and their nice little kiddies

Mothers in full Goth regalia plough baby buggies through the mud; urban techno warriors struggle to unravel the complexity of tent construction; uncharacteristically dishevelled modernists stare in disbelief at displays of blacksmithing while white Rastafarians peddle crystals to weekend New Agers from their mobile bazaars.

Study a Pieter Bruegel painting or consult the works of Rabelais before heading off for Somerset, and you will be better equipped to negotiate this society of atomised beliefs and lifestyles. Here, also, is where you learn that rock is not dead, but simply dismembered into a collection of distantly interrelated parts. Some parts, such as Donovan, the Kinks or the Velvet Underground, are ancient, yet they suck in the oxygen of renewed interest.

Other parts, such as Fun-Damental, Ultramarine, Suede and Digable Planets, are young and full of vigour, yet they have little in common beyond their vivid over-spill of talent.

One intriguing prospect to watch, given the vast span of years that separates the veterans from the tyros, will be the proximity of apprentices to their mentors. Will the Auteurs stay over to watch the Kinks headline tomorrow? Will Spiritualized arrive two days early for another chance to see Lou Reed and the other Velvet?

As for all those digeridoo players who drone their way through the festival season, will they chorus along with Rolf Harris as he serenades them with the inevitable "Sun Arise"?

For the first time, Eavis has not had to defend his festival in court, since Mendip District Council voted by 40 to one to grant a licence. Roiser seems to regret this slightly. Local celebrities such as Fay Weldon have stepped forward entertainingly in past years to defend the right of rock fans to enjoy three days of veggieburgers and Portaloos.

As always, there are detractors and difficulties. "We solved the convoy problem", Roiser says, referring to the travellers who have tried to claim the Glastonbury Festival as their spiritual homeland, "and inherited the rave problem." The professionalism of last year's operation was responsible for the vote of support from the council, yet some socio-musical developments strain even the saintly tolerance of Eavis.

Glastonbury now acts as an annual meltdown of popular music, with psychedelic rock bands performing in dance music tents and absurdly disparate acts appearing within trudging, if not grudging, distance of each other. Last year there was a fashion for sound systems to play loud trance music through the night. This year, the Glastonbury organisers have invoked some displeasure for bowing to the inevitable and banning them. "We think people need a bit of sleep," Roiser says.

But Bruce Douglas, speaking for Club Dog, one of the banned sound systems, is disgruntled. "They're trying to turn it into Womad without the world music," he says. "They don't want any of the dance



What's so funny 'bout peace, love and mud? The spirit of Woodstock lives on in the fields of Glastonbury

music raver types. They don't want the old 'travellers' 'crustie' type. They want former hippies who are now graphic designers and their nice little kiddies."

Harsh words indeed, yet Glastonbury offers more music stages, circuses, theatre groups, films and

myriad other facilities each year. Can it possibly grow even larger? "We can handle it," Roiser says. "We can hire more land. The farmers love it. It's not worth growing anything these days, is it? You get a better return from parked cars for three days than oilseed rape."

So there you have it: the rock festival as a symbol of Britain's transition from agriculture and industry to a service economy — and not a tall Venusian in sight.

● Glastonbury Festival, Worthy Farm, Pilton (information: 0222 668897, bookings: 0222 767868), until Sunday.

NEW WAVES

The insider's guide to the Next Big Thing

In rock parlance, the word "riot" tends to signify a certain degree of conspicuous crossness swiftly followed by the desire to sell cratesloads of records. So we have had "Riot On Sunset Strip", "Riot In Cell Block No 9", "White Riot", "Riot Grrrl" and now a Berlin-based trio named Atari Teenage Riot.

For legal reasons, the band have renamed themselves ATR. Perhaps this was a wise decision, despite the fetching image of a gigantic manufacturing corporation depriving three defenceless musicians of a title. After all, a computer riot would be (and probably will be) the quietest revolution of them all.

ATR's solution to this quandary is to highlight the frequently drawn connections between punk and the do-it-yourself aggression of hardcore techno, even if the terminology of their message seems too technical for fighting talk. The MIDI in "Midi Junkies", for example, stands for Musical Instrument Digital Interface.

Musicians who clarify their own theories run the risk of being tried on suspicion of contrivance. In the 1980s, for example, too many bands cobbled together an image by combining off-the-peg agit-prop polemic with a few choice selections from the music archives.

At least ATR's high-speed crash of punkish guitars, slogans and drum machines has a real target. Techno has been taken up as a cause célèbre by both the left and the right in the united Germany, which goes to show once again that music can be a blank slate upon which ideologues are able to write their own message.

ATR is aware of the risk. "If there is hard music there [in Germany], then the Nazis will follow," says the band's Alec Empire. "They treat it like marching music."

There's something very familiar about it all. Remember the arguments which raged around punk bands such as Sham 69 and their skinhead followers? Perhaps not — in which case, here we go again.

DAVID TOOP

BILLY IDOL

Cyberpunk (Chrysalis 0946 3 26000)
"CYBER-culture is coming in under the radar of ordinary society," a menacing, film-trailer voice announces at the start of Billy Idol's new album. "Welcome to the cyber corporation."

But although packaged in a swirl of computer-generated graphics and crammed with self-conscious references to the future, the songs on *Cyberpunk* are hamstrung by the same old piston-like riffs that Idol has been peddling for most of his career as rock 'n' roll's perennial cartoon delinquent.

Linked by the sort of slender narrative thread that traditionally denotes "concept album" status, Idol's lyrics rarely scratch below the surface sheen of his subject. The computer has taken over from the motorbike as the new "cool tool". But whether celebrating the Los Angeles riots on "Shock To The System" ("Whoah yeah! Oh what a night, LA burnin' bright"), or savouring the dysfunctional lifestyle of the "Power Junkie" ("Suck on my love meat / Now suck on my steel / I gotta go crazy / If you know what I mean"), Idol manages to make life in the brave new world of digitalised virtual reality sound disconcertingly similar to life in the old-fashioned fast lane, and certainly no less clichéd.

To give him his due, Idol has stretched out musically, making greater use of synthesizers and drum machines than in the past, and diligently seeking inspiration from new sources. As well as fiddling with his Sega, he's evidently been listening to The Notorious B.I.B. and doing a bit of reading (notably the novel *Neuromancer* by William Gibson).

But the transformation from rebel biker to dissident cyberpunk is, frankly, unconvincing, and the album is stuck with a yawning credibility gap. Sadly, no amount of pneumatic house rhythms, let alone a dismal techno re-working of the Velvet Underground's "Heroin", can close the distance between ambition and effect.

MANIC STREET PREACHERS
Gold Against The Soul (Columbia 474064)
HERE'S a powerful and surprisingly elegant rebuttal of those who thought that the

RECORDS

Billy Idol: spinally tapped out



Punk's not dead: Billy Idol the way we know and love him

Manic Street Preachers were all attitude and no substance. Despite the immature and self-pitying tone of last year's debut, *Generation Terrorists*, the band from Blackwood in south Wales clearly struck a chord with a newly emergent generation of mildly alienated youth.

Now they have lifted their game with a follow-up album which combines the romantic despair of songs like "Life Becoming A Landslide" and "Roses In The Hospital" with the kind of spring-heeled riffs and melodically charged

choruses that have long served globally revered heavy rock groups from Guns N' Roses to Queen. Indeed, with his high vocal tone and melodramatic delivery, James Dean Bradfield sounds more like the late Freddie Mercury by the day.

Although underpinned by some fairly obvious ideas and a rather threadbare notion of rock 'n' roll as some kind of all-conquering, redemptive force, this is an album which has located the soft spot in the market where heavy rock and the mass popular imagination

converge. If promoted with sufficient vigour it could become a massive international hit.

GLORIA ESTEFAN

Mi Tierra (Epic 473799)
WHAT a difference a language makes. Gloria Estefan has usually been at her best performing songs which show off her and her band's Cuban roots, and this collection of new numbers, sung in Spanish, does exactly that.

Backed by a host of top Cuban musicians — notably trumpeter Arturo Sandoval, percussionist Tito Puente and saxophonist Paquito D'Rivera — Estefan gives the gushing ballads and synthetic soul songs a wide berth, homing in instead on the propulsive salsa rhythms and warm-blooded harmonies of her birthplace.

A translation of the lyrics is thoughtfully provided, while a lexicon of the more commonly used terms gives an idea of the flavour to expect. "Yunfa", for instance, is Cuban slang for "energy", or how about "sacoco", meaning "something very sweet, good or happy"?

THE HOUSE OF LOVE

Audience With The Mind (Fontana 514 880)
WITH bands now being routinely written off as old hat, irrespective of musical merit, by the time they reach their second album, what hope for the House of Love, now on to their fifth album and still looking for that elusive breakthrough to the major league?

In some ways a restatement of first principles, *Audience With The Mind* boasts many fine tunes recorded quickly and produced with a minimum of fuss. "Shining On", with its melancholy chorus and gorgeous slide guitar, is an obvious and defiant echo of former glories.

But time has revealed singer and songwriter Guy Chadwick as a performer lacking the personality to galvanise an audience. His distinctively low-key musings now sound rather dreary and pompous compared to the bright, harsh certainties of the Suede generation. "Is it so pretentious to search for freedom?" he enquires on the title track, concluding on a typically wan, yet self-regarding note: "That's why I have, I feel, what some would say is a dangerous mind." Thoughtful perhaps, but not dangerous enough, I fear.

CONCERT

Decibellicose

Midnight Oil
Brixton Academy

AS WITH their cricket teams and larger advertisements, when it comes to producing loud rock groups, the Australians don't mess about. Road-hardened over a period of at least 15 years, Midnight Oil, from Sydney, have won international recognition for their intelligent rock and poetic, if rather earnestly issued, lyrics. But, when they get on a stage, they also like to make a very loud noise.

If the PA system was cranked near to maximum, then the look of the show could hardly have been more minimal. The lighting was confined to a few moody colours and one or two bursts of white, while the only piece of stage dressing was a corrugated steel barrel which turned out to be part of drummer Rob Hirst's kit. This became apparent when he started whacking away at it furiously, but inaudibly, during "Sell My Soul".

The five Oils, accompanied by a semi-detached keyboard player, devoted their energies to accurate, if noisy renditions of songs culled from their nine-album portfolio. The musicianship was dependable rather than inspired, Jim

tar sections between themselves with such discreet efficiency that it was hard to tell which of them was the featured player at any given point. With such a nondescript cast of instrumentalists, attention naturally focused on the towering, aggressively bald figure of singer Peter Garrett. Looking as if he'd just stepped out of Jack And The Beanstalk, Garrett wheeled about the stage with manic intensity, and rolled about on the floor at the end of "My Country".

The pattern of meandering verse and killer harmony chorus which characterises the band's biggest hit, "Beds Are Burning", held sway throughout a variety of differently paced numbers, from the measured gait of "Stars Of Warburton" to the furious rocker "Tell Me The Truth".

A solid piece of work, if a little old-fashioned, this was essentially a show which underlined the group's long-established appeal, while doing little to extend it.

DAVID SINCLAIR

SEVEN DAYS

OUT AND ABOUT THIS COMING WEEK

SINGLES: Catherine Wheel: "Crank" (Fontana CWCDA5). Heavy overload of guitars with heavenly overlay of harmony vocals; a blissful concoction released Monday.
Chris Rea: "Too Much Pride" (eastwest). Leisurely chorus and timeless twang should appeal to armchair rockers nationwide. Released Monday.
AC/DC: "Big Gun" (eastwest). Typically strident rocker from the forthcoming Arnold Schwarzenegger film *Last Action Hero*. Released Monday.

TELEVISION: *Later With Jools Holland* (BBC2, tonight, 11.15pm). Midnight Oil, Porno For Pyros

and Oleta Adams on the show that seems to have captured the music industry's imagination almost by accident.

RADIO: Glastonbury 93 (Radio 1, 3pm, tomorrow). Johnny Walker hosts live coverage of the massive weekend festival until 10.30pm, then John Peel takes over from 11pm to 1am Sunday morning. Acts featured include the Black Crowes, Robert Plant and Suede.

BOOK: *The Rolling Stone Album Guide* (Virgin, £12.99). Authoritative A-Z of rock, pop, soul and rap albums reviewed for this compendium by a small coterie of Rolling Stone writers.

TOP TEN ALBUMS

- 1 Emergency On Planet Earth Jamiroquai (Orenda)
- 2 Unplugged ... And Seated ... Rod Stewart (Warner Brothers)
- 3 What's Love Got To Do With It Tina Turner (Parlophone)
- 4 Unplugged Neil Young (Reprise)
- 5 Gold Against The Soul Manic Street Preachers (Columbia)
- 6 Pocket Full Of Kryptonite Spin Doctors (Epic)
- 7 Automatic For The People R.E.M. (Warner Brothers)
- 8 Ten Summoner's Tales Sting (A&M)
- 9 No Limits 2 Unlimited (PWL/Conti)
- 10 Janet Janet Jackson (Virgin)

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Doubles partners to meet as rivals

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF
ZINA Garrison-Jackson, of the United States, helped by an injury to her opponent and compatriot, Gigi Fernandez, won her second-round match at Wimbledon yesterday, and faces another, but unrelated, American Fernandez in the next round.

Garrison-Jackson, the losing finalist in 1990 but unseeded this year, was well in control against Gigi Fernandez, who is better as a doubles player, and led 6-4, 4-1 in their second-round match when Fernandez withdrew with a muscle strain in the back of her right shoulder.

Mary Joe Fernandez, Garrison-Jackson's next target, is a much tougher proposition. She is the fifth seed, as doubles partners, they know each other's play very well. Mary Joe easily disposed of Ruxandra Dragomir, of Romania, 6-3, 6-2.

Mary Joe, continued her campaign to become familiar with Wimbledon's grass after reaching the French Open final on clay earlier this month and looked as if she might be acquiring some fondness for the surface with her victory over the young Romanian.

Fernandez, a Wimbledon semi-finalist two years ago, was beaten in the second round at Eastbourne last week. Her 6-2, 6-2 defeat by another fellow American, Ginger Helgeson, seemed to indicate that she would have an uncomfortable time this week. But there were signs yesterday that she was back to the attacking style which carried her into the Paris final.

Garrison-Jackson, 29, is a natural attacker and will provide Fernandez with a stern test tomorrow.

After her defeat, Gigi Fernandez had treatment on her shoulder injury which threatens her continued participation in the women's doubles. She and Natalia Zvereva, of Belarusia, are the defending champions and top seeds.

Italian preys on teenager's inexperience to earn place in the third round

Wainwright fails test of nerve as fame beckons



Andrew Longmore sees another British hopeful slip by the wayside at the second hurdle

Today, Amanda Wainwright will need all her judgment, control, reflexes and accuracy to survive a severe examination of her nerve. Had she managed to summon any one of those qualities for long enough yesterday, she would be enjoying the role of British heroine and contemplating a third-round match at Wimbledon instead of taking her driving test in Essex.

Not that the 17-year-old British girl disgraced herself in losing to Gloria Pizzichini, ranked 130, 614 places higher than her. Far from it. Given her limited experience of life in the big time, she had done well even to reach the second round in her first grand slam tournament and she fought every inch against the Italian. But she will wake this morning with the feeling that, in the language of the school report, she could have done better.

"It was all a matter of experience," Wainwright said after a 6-4, 7-6 defeat - which was all very well, had not Pizzichini been the same age and also playing her first Wimbledon.

As Wainwright will doubtless know from her Latin studies at Bancroft School in Woodford Green, Pizzichini means a "little pinch", which is suitable as the Italian stands barely a pizichini above five feet tall. Yet she has a purposeful stride and a confident manner not entirely justified by her game, which is steady but unspectacular. She has the claycourters' habit of smacking the soles of her shoes with her racket between each point, an accomplished art, and a very Italian habit of staring ferociously at the lines on close calls, as if the power of thought might move the chalk.

She did, though, have enough nous to realise that her best chance of victory lay in keeping the ball in play and letting her opponent's nerves do the rest. Until the closing moments, when Wainwright finally threw caution to the wind and pulled back from 25 down to level the second set, the policy worked a

venue for the inexperienced either, unless you happen to enjoy playing in the middle of the concourse at Waterloo in the rush hour, and Wainwright soon discovered the main disadvantage of being British at Wimbledon. Every mistake - and there were too many - was greeted with that synchronised harmonic groan, the result of a lifetime spent despairing of home tennis players.

The court's one benefit is accessibility. It is possible to stand at the crossroads and watch four matches at once, a distinct plus if the court next door features Andrea Strnadova and Natalia Zvereva, two of the more elegant performers on the women's circuit. There was plenty of time to take the odd sideways glance as Wainwright and Pizzichini carried

out their dialogue mostly from the baseline. It was clear from the first point that the serve would be incidental to the outcome and that whoever dared to lose would win.

Pizzichini was the more aggressive and made fewer errors, though she had a perverse slice of good luck in the second set when her left ankle required lengthy treatment after a fall. By the time the trainer had arrived from a distant court and the ankle had been strapped, Pizzichini had recovered her stride and her equilibrium, while Wainwright's rhythm was disrupted once more. The British girl had just pulled back to 3-2, but lost concentration, momentum and the next two games. "I cooled down a bit and missed a couple of easy shots," she said.

She recovered well enough to force a tie-break and saved three match-points before one final netted backhand gave the Italian victory. Indeed, it was not successful day all-round for Wainwright: in partnership with Mikes MacLagan, another hope for the future, she slipped out of the mixed doubles in the first round, winning just three games in the process.

"It was all very educational," Wainwright said. But that is partly the danger. In this age of child prodigies, too much education can seriously hamper your earning power. Wisely, for her future and for her state of mind, Wainwright will return to school until next summer before venturing onto the circuit full-time. Unfortunately, as many have found before her, well-rounded human beings do not often make great tennis players. Nevertheless, given the reputation of Latin drivers, it is probably just as well that she and not Pizzichini is free for the driving test.

'She will wake this morning with the feeling that, in the language of the school report, she could have done better'



Face of the future: Wainwright plays a backhand during yesterday's defeat



Blonds know secret of success

IT HAS taken years of patience and millions of pounds, but Britain has finally cracked it on the tennis front, producing a string of up-and-coming players able to cause an upset or two at Wimbledon. So what is the secret? Is it the junior development programmes, the Rover scheme, the indoor tennis initiative? No. The LTA has found the key - a bunch of blonds. Andrew Foster, Mark Petchey, Chris Bailey, Mandy Wainwright and Monique Javier are all blond.

Look back at the records at Wimbledon for the last ten years and you will see every woman champion has been blonde and every man, bar two, has had golden locks. Even Martina Navratilova, who won as a brunette in 1978 and 1979, had a few grey hairs before hitting the peptide bottle and going on to win six titles in a row.

Giving notice

As Wimbledon's international appeal grows from year to year, so the All England club has become multilingual in its advice to visitors. A notice has been posted on every gate warning spectators not to buy tickets from touts. It advises German visitors to beware of schwartzhandlers, Spaniards to guard against bucrinarios, and informs guests from that other great nation who regard English as a foreign language, the United States, to watch out for scalpers. All other countries can fend for themselves.

Extra incentive

The story of Wimbledon's sartorial splendour runs and runs. Determined to adhere to the predominantly white rule, the tournament supervisors have a contingency plan. If a player is caught with a multi-coloured shirt and no white replacement, a minion is sent back to the vaults of the All England club to provide, free of charge, a crisp new Kent and Curwen number, market value round £30, which gives, for the lower-ranked and lesser-paid individuals struggling to make money on the tour, an added incentive to win a round or two.

Good cause

On Sunday, European tennis has a chance to honour the late Arthur Ashe with a charity dinner to be held at Grosvenor House. The money raised will go towards the development of grass-roots tennis, a cause dear to Ashe's heart. Every year, he would give his support to the match be-



tween young park players from Brixton in London and Harlem in New York, turning out to watch in Brookwell Park. Over the years, the Ashe has grown and now incorporates eight teams from as far afield as Melbourne and Munich with the London team reaching the final for the past two years. Attending Sunday's dinner will be a host of tennis fanatics, including Sir Peter Ustinov, Charlton Heston and Patti Boulaye. Tickets are still available, price £75.

Quote of day

Mandy Wainwright, 17, on competing at her first Wimbledon, winning a round and claiming a cheque for £5,750 before losing to Gigi Fernandez: "I was a bit nervous, but I believe I have a great future ahead of me."

ALIX RAMSAY

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CHILD'S PLAY



IT AIN'T

Nintendo

GAME BOY

Men's singles

Winner £305,000

Runner-up £152,000

Holder: A Agassi (US)

Second round

Latest results on Wednesday

J Hasek (Swi) bt M R J Petchey (GB), 7-6, 4-6, 6-7, 6-2, 10-8

A Kildner (US) bt M Washington (US), 6-7, 6-4, 6-0, 7-6

P KORDA (Cz) bt B Gilbert (US), 3-6, 6-3, 6-2

D Rostagno (US) bt M Ondruska (SA), 6-2, 2-6, 2-6, 6-4, 7-6

Yesterday

T Martin (US) bt M Goriz (Sp), 6-4, 6-2, 6-4

D Wheaton (US) bt B Shelton (US), 7-6, 4-6, 6-7, 6-2, 10-8

M CHANG (US) bt T A Woodbridge (Aus), 6-7, 6-3, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4

W Ferreira (SA) bt C Costa (Sp), 2-6, 6-2, 6-7, 7-6, 6-8

H Klein (Swi) bt M Woodforde (Aus), 6-3, 3-6, 6-4, 6-3

J Stoltenberg (Aus) bt M Larsson (Swe), 6-3, 3-6, 6-4, 6-3

A Scatena (Fra) bt I Lendl (US), 4-6, 7-6, 6-3, 6-2

K Carlson (Den) bt D Randall (US), 6-2, 6-2, 6-3

C Poine (Fra) bt A MEDVEDEV (Ukr), 6-7, 7-6, 6-3, 6-4

R Hiestand (US) bt D Deliste (Fra), 6-0, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3

J Fraw (Arg) bt J B Fitzgerald (Aus), 6-4, 6-3, 6-2

S Doping (Cze) bt A Hernandez (Ger), 6-3, 6-4, 6-4

Men's doubles

Holder: P McEnroe (US) and M Stich (Ger)

First round

C Suk (Cz) and D Vacek (Cz) bt S Casal (Sp) and J Hasek (Swi), 4-6, 7-6, 7-6, 7-6

D ADAMS (Aus) and A OJIOVSKY (Rus) bt C Brand (It) and M Tabares (Cuba), 7-6, 7-6, 6-2

R Bergh (Swe) and B Telbot (SA) bt S Pearce (US) and C J Van Rensburg (SA), 3-6, 2-6, 7-6, 6-2

Women's singles

Winner £275,000

Runner-up £137,500

Holder: S Graf (Ger)

Second round

Yesterday

J NOVOTNA (Cz) bt I Bonatchegui (Arg), 6-0, 7-6

M Wiersma (US) bt A Gavrilov (Mas), 6-2, 6-1

G Pizzichini (It) bt A H M Wainwright (GB), 6-4, 7-6

M Orams (Hol) bt L Field (Aus), 6-3, 6-2

A Huber (Ger) bt L Boland (It), 6-4, 6-0

F Labat (Arg) bt C Porwik (Ger), 3-6, 6-1, 6-4

N Medvedeva (Ukr) bt N Dahmen (Fra), 1-6, 6-3, 6-4

G SABBATINI (Arg) bt K S Rieckel (US), 6-2, 6-2

M J FERNANDEZ (US) bt R Dragomir (Rom), 6-3, 6-2

Z L Sanchez-Jackson (US) bt G Fernandez (US), 6-4, 4-2, Retired

S Appelgren (Bel) bt S Fraw (Ger), 6-2, 6-3

N Zvereva (Belarus) bt A Strnadova (Cz), 6-3, 6-2

N TALIZAT (Fra) bt M Javier (GB), 6-1, 6-2

L A Davenport (US) bt B Rittner (Ger), 6-0, 7-6

P Ruy (Can) bt M Endo (Japan), 6-6, 6-3, 6-2

M NAVRATILOVA (US) bt R M Nelder (SA), 6-0, 6-4

Women's doubles

Holder: G Fernandez (US) and N Zvereva (Bel)

First round

Yesterday

S L COLLINS (US) and R M WHITE (US) bt C Benjamin (US) and T J Morton (Aus), 4-6, 6-4, 6-2

L M Harvey-Wild (US) and H W Wiesner (Aus) bt C G Barclay (Aus) and K A Guse (Aus), 7-6, 6-1

E MANIKOVA (Rus) and L MESKHI (Ger) bt E Bord (GB) and C Taylor (GB), 6-3, 6-1

I Dedeck (Hol) and L Novotna (Cz) bt I DEMONGEOT (Fra) and E REINACH (SA), 6-4, 6-4

Y Basak (Ind) and M Paz (Arg) bt D A GAVAHAM (US) and B SCHULZ (Hol), 6-3, 5-7, 6-2

L A Davenport (US) and C Rittner (US) bt H Spring (Austria) and D Thomas (Aus), 6-4, 6-3

R McOwen (Aus) and C Fraw (Ger) bt S Appelgren (Bel) and B Rittner (Ger), 6-4, 3-6, 6-2

K Hebebrandova (Cze) and N A Murejanman (Hol) bt LADAT (Arg) and R Zvereva (Slovakia), 6-4, 6-3

M MALEEVA (Bel) and M MALEEVA-FRANIERE (Swi) bt R Bobkova (Cz) and P Lungova (Cz), 6-4, 6-3

Mixed doubles

Holder: C Suk (Cz) and M L Savchenko-Nelander (US)

First round

Yesterday

G CONNELL (Can) and M R M WHITE (US) bt A L Foster (GB) and M A L Grunkel (GB), 6-2, 7-5

G MICHAELA (Can) and M J M HETHERINGTON (Can) bt T Wainwright (US) and M K M Adams (US), 1-6, 7-6, 6-4

F Montana (US) and M E Ede (Japan) bt S Heilke (US) and M L M Harvey-Wild (US), 6-4, 7-5

P Albano (Arg) and M P Tarabini (Arg) bt S Cannon (US) and M S C Stalder (US), 6-4, 6-4

Foster can lead challenge

ANDREW Foster may seem to have emerged from nowhere to bear the standard for British tennis at Wimbledon this year, but for the few who have followed his progress through the anonymity of the country's junior ranks, his promise has long been obvious. In Stoke-on-Trent, at least, Foster was always a likely heir apparent to the long-time British No 1, Jeremy Bates.

Brian Boughey, a former coach with the Staffordshire County Tennis Association, knows Foster as well as anybody, having taught the player from the age of ten, and he believes Foster, following his straight-sets win over Luis Herrera, of Mexico, on Wednesday, can go from strength to strength. "He could be a world best," Boughey said yesterday.

"Andrew showed great talent from an early age and was easily the best prospect from the group of lads I coached."

"I clearly remember that he was strongest player because of his height and had a good mental approach to the game, which helped him to win a lot of tournaments. He was always so level-headed and never got angry, qualities which will make him an even better player."

"I'm a bit surprised that he has done so well at Wimbledon this year, because he excelled at doubles and was weaker at singles, but I believe he has a great future ahead of him."

Electronic line judges are to be introduced for the first time at the 1993 US Open, which

starts in August, the United States Tennis Association announced on Wednesday. The Tennis Electronic Lines (TEL) system will be installed in the centre court, as well as No 1, No 16 and No 17.

"This is an historic event and introduces a new dimension to tennis. Even one call believed by a player to be wrong can affect the outcome of a match," Steve DeVoe, the US Open tournament director, said yesterday. "The US Open is too important to the players to let this happen, if we can prevent it."

The TEL system was used at the US Open last year. The study revealed that, out of 2,956 close line calls, the TEL system would have reversed the line judge's decision in 301 cases.

صباح الخير

Time catches up with one of grass-court tennis's most noble competitors

Lendl must learn to say never at last



SIMON BARNES
At Wimbledon

So Ivan Lendl has failed at Wimbledon again: let's hear it for failure. For there is a difference between failing and giving up. There is a strong element of nobility in failure: none whatsoever in giving up.

Lendl did not give up yesterday: but he was beaten by a pouting young Frenchman called Arnaud Boetsch. Boetsch seemed resigned to defeat — ready to give up, in fact — as Lendl dominated the first set and most of the second. But after having things under complete control, Lendl somehow lost his way and his match, going down 4-6, 7-5, 6-3, 6-4.

Lendl looked the clear winner until the last game of the second set. Then he surrendered control in a single game with anyone else, I would have called it a lapse of concentration. The lapse rattled Lendl, and the rattling inspired young Boetsch. The Frenchman at once lowered his pout-count dramatically and starting skipping about, twirling his racket, and generally having the time of his life. His stride acquired a Tigger-like bounce: his shots acquired a new inventiveness and certainty.

He set up his first match point with an impossible ping-pong shot, converted it first time, and went off smirking and waving. He had earned it. But Lendl could not bear to lift a hand in farewell.

He muttered a gracious "Great match, well done" — courtesies are courtesies even when uttered through gritted teeth — to Boetsch and hurried away. He was no sooner off the court than he was out of the ground: no doubt to Concord and Connecticut and home: back into the loving, uncritical paws of his dogs.

I wonder if this will be Lendl's last Wimbledon. This second-round defeat is his worst showing here since he lost in the first round 12 years ago. But although he was seeded seventh this time, and is still ranked seven, he is 33 now. Boetsch, unseeded, is

aged and ranked 24. He said he won by exploiting Lendl's slowness of reaction: sport is always a cruel business.

And so Lendl, 20 million bucks worth of career prize-money and four years as No 1, one of the finest tennis players ever to have lifted a racket or scowled at a line-judge, has left, a distraught victim of the passing years and the cocky young Frenchman.

"I see him play this year, and he was slow, a bit lazy on court and I am surprised of that," Boetsch said with a flâneur's smile.

I don't know if Lendl seriously believed he could still win Wimbledon. I expect so. It is a sportsman's job to believe in the improbable: in sport, it is belief that possibilities are impossible.

But this must feel like the end of the road for Lendl: damn it, it must feel like the end of the world. Lendl has worked harder on longevity than most: a fanatic for fitness and for playing all the percentages of experience and reputation. But fanatical fitness does not stop the passage of time: it only puts off the dreadful day. And for Lendl, I think this really was the dreadful day: what the Queen would no doubt call the *dies horribilis*.

Even during his era of mechanical perfection, robot-like precision, and cold-blooded pursuit of victory, Wimbledon humanised Lendl. Failure is, after all, the most humanising trait of all.

His hunger for the grail of Wimbledon was a matter of striving and constant failing. He changed his game and learned to volley for Wimbledon's sake. His missed the French Open to prepare for yet another last throw for the grail of SW19.

And all to no avail. And the more he failed, the more he has acquired love here. True, one suspects Lendl would swap love for victory any day, but he will have to stay content with the love.

The love will stay with him. I know if I make a cheap joke



Weary warrior: Lendl was slow, lazy, Boetsch said. The Frenchman won in four sets

about Lendl — if I were, for example, to suggest that his newly acquired United States citizenship could disqualify him from the Transylvania Davis Cup team — I know I will get a volley of letters upbraiding me for being nasty to lovely, mysterious, gloomily handsome old Ivan.

And so I will instead sing his praises: and to praise Lendl at

Wimbledon is to praise failure. For Lendl reminds me of one of my most favourite heroes in English literature: Beowulf. Even if he does look more like Grendel.

Beowulf is an Anglo-Saxon epic in praise of the glories of failure. Beowulf slays the monster Grendel, slays Grendel's still more monstrous mother, and then meets the

dragon and dies. Moral: for every superhero — for every person that ever walked — the last dragon is waiting. The name of the dragon is probably Time.

Beowulf marches gloriously into his last failure, knowing that Time will always win: but that is no reason to give up the struggle. Quite the reverse. Lendl has fought against

Time, and Time has inevitably defeated him. But his struggle has been glorious, noble, honourable. That is what failure means, and, as I say, it has nothing whatever to do with giving up. Lendl must now learn to accept that he has won the epitaph he has always dreaded. He is the best tennis player never to win Wimbledon.

No mate's rates for goddess of free enterprise

As we had no tickets for Wimbledon this year, we went to Somerset Road SW19 three hours before play began, to get a fix.

On the western side of the street, about 200 yards south of the turnstiles stands a mobile hamburger van. A man in a white jacket — though not one with his name embroidered thereon like chefs Blanc, of Oxford, and White, of Wandsworth — was wearing blue helmets, officials' Panama hats, "I've seen her in Madison Square, New York" and he asked whether it would be all right to dunk his sausage roll in my tea.

On closer inspection, the girl did have the appearance of a Runyonesque hard doll rather than a tennis aficionado or Agassi groupie.

"It's a police state, that's what," said white cap, "barriers, barbed wire, queue here for this, over there for that..." and he excused himself as hair a dozen Japanese came down the street, asked them politely whether they had any spare tickets.

"It's all right to ask for

"worthy of a detour". It is here that touts gather to exchange information — like on the presence of a girl brandishing a poster stating, "ALL THE WAY FROM THE USA — I NEED A TICKET".

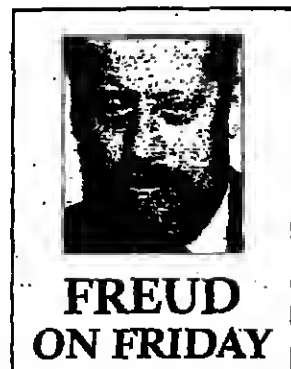
"If she were a man," said one of the fraternity, "or if she were my age, she'd get nicked."

"She's a pro," said a tout wearing a white peaked cap as a badge of office (police men wear blue helmets, officials Panama hats, "I've seen her in Madison Square, New York" and he asked whether it would be all right to dunk his sausage roll in my tea.

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"It's all right to ask for



FREUD ON FRIDAY

tickets: selling them is illegal: selling is what they nick you for, know why?"

We shook our head.

"Trading without a licence. Know where you get a licence? Nowhere: they don't issue any."

What happens if the police catch you?

"Well," said our informant, "the police don't catch you, not if you look after your customers: if necessary walk them a couple of miles down the road to do the business."

Trade among touts is fair, "but TV has given us a poor image: they don't understand that sometimes we do four or five days' hard work getting stock and then it rains and we end up with Ticket Pie for dinner."

We asked whether ticket touting was a good trade into which to put our children. It seems that as long as they can dive and duck, be the right type, not too reserved, be able to front, have the qualities, like when they see someone, walk right up to them and say "so-and-so", they'd make a good living.

Who were the greats?

"Fat Stan (Flashman) — a good man, though in poor health at the moment, did a lot for the profession; brought us out into the open, made the trade honourable... and there were the old ones like Curly King and Jim the Guardsman, both gone."

"Everyone attended their funerals."

"Just the other day, when an oyster died (an oyster is someone who steals clothing and furniture), a few of us had

a whip-round and sent a wreath.

"He was a bit special: had once got a commission for a three-piece suit, put on a brown shirt coat, gone into a shop, got the staff to help him take the suit and load it into his van."

"It is not what it was," said a tout who came to join us: "I been in since I was 15 and my dad was in it before. Wimbledon was a fortnight's holiday with pay, and it used to be pleasurable."

We ask from what it was a holiday. Business, he said. Fruit and veg stall in the market.

Like EastEnders?

He said: "I don't watch that kind of television: when I watch, it's nature things like *Cloveau*."

A newspaper headline bomed in on Buckingham Palace tour tickets selling for £100 — of which Her Majesty gets £3 and the touts £97. He said he wouldn't go into that racket.

"From my point of view, the Queen is doing us a favour: if

it weren't for her, we'd get no tourists and no tourists means no business. We leave her alone."

How do you vote?

"Conservative, that Mrs Thatcher: she's the goddess of free enterprise."

If she wanted a ticket, would you give her a discount?

"Never: she understands market forces."

A man with a white cap came by, ordered a coffee and said "They've got Flarve."

"Not Flarve," said my companion. "Flarve's been here for 50 years, has some really good customers."

"And been wearing the same suit for 25 years: if he took it off, it would stand up on its own and wait for him to come back," said another.

A tout quietly munching a cheeseburger went to the dispenser and smothered it first in mustard, then in tomato ketchup. "Poor old Flarve."

It transpired that Flarve was all right, had just stopped to have a chat with a few policemen of his acquaintance and people had drawn the wrong conclusion.

Barnet given extra time for more talks

BARNET were granted a reprieve yesterday, but it may last only a day. The Football League agreed to meet representatives today of the consortium interested in taking over the club. The crisis talks will take place in Bournemouth where senior officials of Football League, Premier League and Football Association are involved in a series of meetings.

The north London club, which won promotion to the second division last season, failed to meet the league's noon deadline yesterday for arranging a £500,000 bond as a guarantee for the future. That could have been followed by a special meeting of clubs to expel Barnet but the league assistant secretary, Andy Williamson, said: "At the request of the club, the league have agreed to talks with representatives of the consortium who must convince us that Barnet Football Club has a future." Barnet are believed to be £1.3million in debt and the players have not been paid for five weeks.

Till likely to move up

BOXING: Andy Till's future as a light-middleweight does not seem too promising after his fourth-round defeat by Laurent Boudouani, of France, the European champion, on Wednesday (Srikumar Sen writes). Harry Holland, Till's manager, is thinking of moving him up to middleweight. Till could not carry on against Boudouani because of cut eyes, but he was so completely outclassed by the Frenchman that there seems no point in continuing in a division that is full of better men than Boudouani, who is rated only No 9.

□ Derek Angol remained under observation in a Ferrara hospital, yesterday, two days after being knocked out by the Italian, Massimiliano Duran, during an European light heavyweight title fight. Specialists said that results of brain examinations were negative, but more tests will be needed.

Phelps under pressure

MODERN PENTATHLON: Despite his zero-scoring ride in the European championship this month Richard Phelps is favourite to win the national title in Bedford today and tomorrow, two days instead of the usual five. Pressing him hard will be Graham Brookhouse, Greg Whyte, Shawnorr Morgan, the triathlon champion, and Keith Shindler, still a junior, who took the universities' title for Oxford with an impressive 5360 points. Kate Houston, the women's title holder, will be challenged by both Rachel Wilmut, and by last year's junior champion, Helen Nicholas.

Bedford improves

YACHTING: David Bedford pulled his crew, on Jeriatric, into the reckoning for the J24 national championship with a determined win yesterday in the penultimate race of the Henri-Lloyd series at Abersoch. The former national and European champion rounded the first mark in fourth place, behind Nick Whipp and Ian Southworth, while Chris Larson, of the United, who is leading the series, struggled in the light conditions in 23rd place. Larson, who recovered to finish tenth, retains a 5.7-point lead over Southworth, with Bedford third, a further 3.5 points adrift.

Pagel wins reprieve

RUGBY UNION: The season-long ban imposed by South African rugby authorities on Garry Pagel, the Western Province prop forward, for raking the face of Jean-Francois Tordo, the France captain, was overturned by a court in Cape Town yesterday. The supreme court said Pagel would be allowed to play rugby at any level until a further disciplinary hearing of the South African Rugby Football Union (SARFU) in Johannesburg on June 30. Guy Laporte, the French tour manager, warned that SARFU would be "judged in their actions by the rest of the rugby world."

Sixsmith takes a break

HOCKEY: England will be missing their prolific scorer, Jane Sixsmith, right, when they take on Germany in the Four Nations tournament, which starts in Glasgow today. Sixsmith is on honeymoon and is replaced by Lucy Youngs, the Ipswich player. For the hosts, Germany and France, the tournament completes their final preparations and international build-up to next month's Inter Continental Cup in Philadelphia.



Newcastle sign Cypriot

FOOTBALL: Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle United manager, yesterday paid £125,000 to sign Nicki Pappavasiliou, the Cypriot international midfielder player. Keegan, who completed the £1.5 million signing of Peter Beardsley from Everton earlier in the week, had been having problems obtaining a work permit for the Pappavasiliou, who plays for OFI Crete. However, Keegan confirmed: "He now has a Greek passport and that has cleared the way for us to clinch a deal." Keegan is still trying to complete the £1.5 million signing of Sergei Yuran from Benfica.

LeMond in doubt

CYCLING: Greg LeMond, three times a winner of the Tour de France, may not compete in this year's race, which starts on July 3. The American retired from the Route du Sud in France on Wednesday night after trailing Eric Boyer, the leader, by more than 40 minutes. LeMond, 32, also withdrew from the Giro d'Italia when he was more than two hours behind the leader. "I have no reason to line up Greg on the tour only for my pleasure or the sponsors' one," Roger Legeay, LeMond's team manager, said. Legeay said he would make a decision by Monday.

Marathon signing

RUGBY LEAGUE: Royce Simmons, Hull rugby league club's coach, is preparing to run five marathons in an attempt to raise the £20,000 necessary to lure Des Hasler, the former Australian scrum half, from Sydney's Manly-Warringah club. Hasler is set to accept the offer by Hull, who also hope to complete a second significant Australian signing next month. Featherstone Rovers are to make a third improved offer to Paul Newlove, their Great Britain centre. Martin Offiah, who entered hospital yesterday for shoulder reconstruction, expects to be fit by August.

Prize-money drops

SQUASH: The Australian Open championship lost a leading sponsor yesterday and has been forced to reduce substantially its prize-money as a result. Prize-money will now total US\$10,000, a stark contrast to the \$160,000 total of two years ago. Chris Dittmar, the world's second-ranked player from Australia, said: "Australia should be able to run a circuit of tournaments, let alone one major event, but if a sponsor doesn't materialise, it is not the federation's fault. While Australia is a great nation for playing and watching sport, no-one wants to pay for it."

Samaranch tells politicians to keep their distance

FROM DAVID MILLER
IN LAUSANNE

THE US Congress was politely rebuffed yesterday by Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), in resistance to political pressure regarding election of the host city for the Olympic Games of 2000. The message he gave was simple: leave us alone.

In response to demands from the House of Representatives that the IOC should not elect Peking as host for 2000, Samaranch acknowledged the importance of the United States to the Olympic Movement, especially as the Centenary Games will be held in Atlanta. But he said: "The IOC must be sensitive to public

opinion, but free from political pressure."

The danger for the IOC is that, with a likely polarisation of moral viewpoints regarding China and the human rights issue, it will itself be judged wrong either way if the public forgets the IOC's philosophical independence from all political views. It will be judged wrong, for ignoring human rights if China is elected in September, or for being pressurised by America if Peking, one of the favourites, is defeated.

It should be noted however, that with three months to go, there is every possibility, in a tight contest, that China may not be selected on sporting issues alone. Samaranch's statement went on: "The indepen-

dence of the IOC is very important, and is a reason why the International Olympic Movement has survived 99 years, and is now stronger than ever. Independence means that IOC members can concentrate on deciding what would be best for sport, the athletes, and Olympism, free from political pressures."

"The issue of human rights is one of many factors that each IOC member will consider as they make their own individual decisions. For some members, a poor human rights record will be a reason not to vote for a country; for others, it could work the other way, and they may consider that the experience of involvement with the International Olympic Movement could help a country. All sports bodies need to be

able to work with governments in the interests of sport, but we must resist attempts by politicians to use sport for political purposes."

"Our members know the Olympic Charter, that we cannot accept racist decisions, or religious or political influence in any way. The position of our organisation is quite clear."

At a recent meeting of the executive board in Atlanta, Samaranch took time off to see former US President Jimmy Carter, who led the American boycott of the 1980 Games in Moscow. Samaranch reminding him of the constitutional issues contained in the IOC Charter, which he repeated yesterday, Samaranch added the observation: "Boycotts are something from the past. Those who create them discover that the losers

are they themselves and their athletes."

Questioned at a press conference, Samaranch denied that he had any ambition, as has been suggested, to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. "I am not qualified," he said. "But the IOC might be considered, because it has fought 100 years for youth, peace, sport, and solidarity. It (the Nobel Prize) should not be for me, but for the IOC."

Following the opening of the new museum here, when 8,000 people passed through in under four hours, the IOC considers that aspects of security will have to be improved. Publicity for the museum has brought fresh sponsorship, so that 90% of the £45 million cost has come from donations.

BBC1

- 6.00 Business Breakfast (80019)
6.00 Breakfast News (7008303)
9.05 Morning Surgery. A look at physiology and a guide to vasectomy (s) (7057125) 9.20 Hot Chicks. Ross King presents last-making tips from top chefs (s) (8542553) 9.45 Whatever Happened To...? Angela Ripston looks back at news stories (s) (3535351)
10.00 News (s), regional news and weather (848725) 10.05 Playdays. For (s) (7614941) 10.30 Stopped and Tidyup (s) (7243767) 10.35 A Summer Good Morning. Highlights from this year's series of Good Morning... with Anne and Nick (s) (692458)
11.00 News (s), regional news and weather (1055070) 11.05 Knots Landing. Drama spin-off from the series featuring the Ewing family's poor relations (s) (8551583) 11.50 Holiday Home. Off to Derbyshire for a family break (s) (4291899)
12.00 News (s), regional news and weather (8430487) 12.05 Cartoon Time with Tom and Jerry (5193835) 12.25 Eddoradio. (s) (8480819) 12.55 Regional News and Weather (7207767)
1.00 One O'Clock News (s) and Edward Sturt (s) (8321830) 1.30 Neighbours. (s) (8321830)
1.50 Wimbledon '93. Live coverage of day five (s) (32627212)
4.10 Baker (s) (8985632) 4.35 Heartbeat. Invention picture making. (s) (s) (621408)
5.00 Newsworld (845722) 5.15 Round the Twist. Episode 11 (s). (s) (857409)
5.35 Neighbours (s). (s) (892038). Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Moira Stuart. (s) (854)
6.30 Regional News. (s) (892038). Northern Ireland: Neighbours
7.00 Eddoradio. (s) (7800)



Peace rally: the folk singer Joan Baez (7.30pm)

- 7.30 The Rock 'n' Roll Years (b/w). 1955 - the year Sir Winston Churchill dies and the Los Angeles suburb of Watts is sacked. Musical memories include the Righteous Brothers, Joan Baez and the Who. (s) (890)
8.00 Casualty. The staff at Holby this week witness the media getting to grips with a crisis of confidence at the hospital and dealing with a pit-bull owner (Neil Caplan) brought in with severe injuries caused during a fight between two dogs (s). (s) (89038)
8.50 Points of View presented by Anne Robinson. (s) (727203)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. (s) (8941)
9.30 Crime and Justice. The best who-odds police investigation programme looks at a Cardiff-based case of a skeleton discovered in a shallow garden grave (s). (s) (425167)
10.15 Today at Wimbledon. Highlights of the day's play (s) (846228). Wales: The State 10.55 Crystals and Cats. Whiskers 11.25-12.25 Today at Wimbledon
11.15 Film: Hard Contract (1989) starring James Coburn as a cool, professional assassin and Lee Remick as the wealthy American he falls in love with. Gradually, he questions his profession. Directed by S. Lee Pogossin (972361) 1.00 Weather (7283510)

BBC2

- 6.45 Open University: Maths - Differential Equations (0054911) 7.10 Statistics: Count (1889331) 7.35 Maths: Networks and Matrices (1918187)
8.00 Breakfast News (418051)
8.15 Westminster (8467748)
9.00 Yesterday at Wimbledon. Highlights of play on the fourth day of the Championships (s) (s) (83300)
10.00 Film: This Woman Is Dangerous (1952) (b/w). Joan Crawford stars in her last film for Warner Bros. She plays the role of a killer's steady mistress who has an affair with a surgeon. Supporting Crawford is David Brian as the mobster and Dennis Morgan as the surgeon. Directed by Felix Feltz (7125477)
11.40 Jumpcuts This is a preview of the weekend's Open University programmes (s) (8494545)
11.45 Penny Croydon. Penny and Dennis prevent an attempt to steal the crown jewels (s) (4189800)
11.55 Puppets Tales. Everyone in the neighbourhood of a village of six-acre field in Manchester is at danger from Ruff and his bicycle (s) (8417499)
12.00 Wimbledon '93. Live coverage of day five, presented by Desmond Lynam and Barry Davies. The commentary team is John Barrett, Mark Cox, Bill Threlfall, David Mercer, Paul Hutchings, John Alexander and Julian Tait (s). Includes at 2.00 and 3.00. News (s), regional news and weather, at 3.50. News (s), regional news and weather (9490381)
8.30 Gardeners' World. Geoff Hamilton and Liz Rigby report on a record-breaking attempt at a floral flag of welcome. Nurseryman Dave Stafford has organised the transformation of a six-acre field in Manchester into an Olympic flag. Other topics highlighted include bamboo cultivation in Norfolk and a wealth of design ideas in Surrey. (s) (8125)
9.00 Atlas Smith and Jones. An opportunity to view the first series, from 1984, of Mel Smith and Griff Rhy Jones (s). (s) (892038)
9.30 One Foot in the Past. Series on Britain's heritage (s) (26187)
10.00 The Brain Drain. See Choice (12498)
10.30 Newsworld. (s) (s) (846228)
11.15 Letter with Joe Hootland. The former lead singer with Jane's Addiction, with his new band Porno for Pyros make their British television debut on this programme. Ragga legends Black Uhuru, Australia's Midnight Oil and soul singer J. Adams complete the line-up (s) (422274). Wales: Wales in Westminster 11.45-12.15 Wales with Joe Hootland 12.35 Weather 12.40-2.15 Rock Docs
12.05am Weather (8303881)



Rounded: the Every Brothers (12.00pm)

- 12.10 Rock Docs: The Every Brothers - Songs of Innocence and Experience. This series of classic rock documentaries continues with a 1984 Arena profile in which the brothers are united after many years of acrimonious estrangement (s). (4176423) Ends at 1.50
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1897, 1898, 1899, 1900, 1901, 1902,

FRIDAY JUNE 25 1993

Medvedev talks of mysterious personal problems after losing in Wimbledon second round

Lendl bows out then leaves without a word

By Stuart Jones, Tennis Correspondent

WITHOUT a word Ivan Lendl stormed out of Wimbledon yesterday, unable publicly to face the fact that his pursuit of the coveted crown is over. At the age of 33, the oldest competitor in the men's singles, he cannot now expect to fill the one gaping hole in his long list of honours.

The former world champion has collected three French, three United States and two Australian trophies but the most prestigious of the four grand slam titles has eluded him. Realistically, it has been slipping further and further away since he lost in successive finals to Boris Becker in 1986 and Stefan Edberg in 1987.

He was seeded seventh, matching his ranking in the world, but his position was based more on past history and sentimentality than his recent form. He had been knocked out in the first round of each of his previous three tournaments—the Italian and French Opens and the Stella Artois at Queen's.

Nobody, not even Lendl himself, could have been certain that he would not suffer the same fate at Wimbledon, even though he was drawn against a qualifier. Ignominiously, he dropped the first set against Brian Devening, an American ranked 318 places below him, before recovering and going through.

Lendl opened more promisingly yesterday and took the first set but his opponent on No 1 court was considered the favourite, Arnaud Boetsch, a 24-year-old Frenchman, feels so at home on grass that he has never failed to reach at least the third round at Wimbledon.

He protected his record by breaking Lendl in the later stages of the next three sets to win 4-6, 7-5, 6-3, 6-4 in two hours and 19 minutes. Lendl immediately left the grounds, failing to attend the customary press conference, a misdemeanour which will probably cost him \$1,000.

The only words uttered by him had to be delivered indirectly. "Great match and good

luck," he was reported to have said to an opponent who had to speak on his behalf. Boetsch had initially been taken aback by the power of Lendl, and especially by the strength of his serve.

"I saw him play in Nice on clay and I thought he was a bit slow and a bit lazy," he said. "I was surprised in the first set, but he started to make a lot of mistakes, particularly on the backhand. He didn't serve so well either and that gave me confidence."

"When I knew that I had to play on court No 1, I was happy. It was like a dream so I enjoyed it. That was the great thing for me. I just tried to concentrate on my game and it worked."

Boetsch had never even taken a set off Lendl before, let alone beaten him, and he offered his sympathy to his victim. "It is a shame and a

anybody but it is especially difficult for me. I definitely didn't want to play because of what happened but I will never be able to pull out of tournaments because of personal problems."

They were, he insisted, connected only in London. Nevertheless, it seems odd that his coach, Alexander Dolgoplov, has chosen to be in Germany. The pair decided between them, apparently, that they needed a rest from each other.

But why now during the most important event of the year? Neither Medvedev nor his sister, who was humbled to be questioned about the mystery after her own victory, would say.

Poline, who belatedly celebrated his 24th birthday, which was ten days ago, by reaching the third round for the first time, was plainly unable to shed any light on it either.

Two other seeds flirled for a long time with elimination. Michael Chang, the 12th, was taken to five sets for the second successive round before emerging 6-7, 6-3, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4 against Todd Woodbridge. Wayne Ferreira, the 13th, who reached the final of Queen's a fortnight ago, was extended even further by Carlos Costa before winning 2-6, 6-2, 6-7, 7-6, 8-6.

By comparison, Stefan Edberg's progress was serene. The second seed and favourite, whose already advantageous draw became even more so yesterday, took less than an hour and three quarters to dismiss the potentially awkward Amos Mansdorf.

Goran Ivanisevic yesterday became the fourth player to be fined at Wimbledon this week for swearing at an official.

The Croatian left-hander, 21, was penalised \$1000 (about £666) by Alan Mills, the tournament referee, for an audible obscenity during his first-round match with Jonathan Stark on Tuesday. A linesman had foot-faulted him several times on his service.

Simon Barnes, page 41
Clement Freud, page 41



French service: Boetsch opens proceedings against Lendl, whom he beat

Wilkinson to play Edberg in next round

By Alex Ramsay

CHRIS Wilkinson yesterday earned himself the dubious reward of a third-round meeting with the two-times champion, Stefan Edberg, by beating the qualifier, Sebastian Larreau, from Canada, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4. He may have had his moments recently, beating Goran Ivanisevic and Javier Panat on the way to Wimbledon, but meeting Edberg on what has become the Swede's home turf will be his toughest challenge to date.

Yet, if Wilkinson can play as he did in patches yesterday, he could cause Edberg, the second seed, a sleepless night or two. The Briton began with his mind focused on the task ahead and, never a flashy player, was just too neat and workmanlike for Larreau to deal with. The Canadian duly dealt with Wilkinson can now look forward to the task ahead.

"I am not afraid of Edberg," he said. "I feel the way I am playing at the moment I can beat anyone." With the possibility of an appearance on centre court, a place he has only graced before to have his picture taken for a modelling job, he said: "It's fine by me. I think I have a chance because my confidence is high. I know I am serving well. I am returning well and I know I am getting better all the time."

Larreau, three years Wilkinson's junior at 20 and 36 places below him on the rankings at No 179, knows how to play on grass, having won the Wimbledon junior doubles title in 1990, but, for the first set at least, his heart did not appear to be in it, giving Wilkinson the start he needed.

However, out on court three, within earshot of the centre court where Chris Bailey was taking the first set from Ivanisevic, Wilkinson lost his concentration. Neither man could hold serve as the game fluctuated wildly with some excellent volleys, thundering passes and appalling errors. As Wilkinson stood at 4-1 in the second set, a huge cheer echoed around the centre court and the packed crowds on the outside court saw what Bailey had achieved. Apparently, so did Wilkinson, as suddenly his game began to crack.

He is not the biggest of men.

standing only 5ft 11in tall in the world of giants that constitutes the modern game, but he makes up for it with consistent and accurate play. His serve will never blow an opponent off court, but his variation and placement brings with it a handful of aces. Yet it was only with the second set safely under his belt that Wilkinson managed to gather his thoughts and mount a final sprint for the finish.

With a break in the first game of the third set, his double-fisted backhand came into its own. It took Larreau a while to realise that, if he kept pumping the serves to the backhand, he was going to be passed, but by then the damage was done and the man from Fair Oak was serving for the match at 5-2.

It was a nervous moment and the panic began to show.



Wilkinson: confident

A double fault began the rot as Wilkinson lost eight points — and two games — in a row, only to recover his poise and punch out four service winners to win the match.

For Monique Javer, there was nothing to celebrate as she lost 6-2, 6-1 to Nathalie Tauziat, of France, the No 16 seed. Javer has never made it beyond the second round of any tournament this year and, for the most part, her challenge ends at the first hurdle. Yesterday, against Tauziat, she never looked likely to change that.

Tauziat has a reputation as an impossible player to beat if you are ranked below her, but is something of a soft touch for those ranked above her. Javer was never in contention.

Diary, page 40
Results, page 40

Century against Australia ices day for Cake



Cake: salutes his century at the Parks

THE Oxbridge admissions policy of recent years had led many to believe that never again would a Cornishman all-rounder, a C.B. Fry, come to the Parks. Yesterday, in the form of Russell Quentin Cake, one did.

Before going out to bat for Combined Universities against the Australians, Cake learned that he had gained a first in his first-year exams. That would tell of how little time he has had to hone his cricket skills, yet by the afternoon he had taken a century off the exultant touring team besides. All that was missing was the presence of Ted Dexter.

Cake is 20, is at St John's, Cambridge, and has a curriculum vitae that Fry himself would have recognised. His subject is

Ivo Tennant sees a Cambridge student produce an all-round performance worthy of the great Cornish traditions of C.B. Fry

engineering, his sponsor is ICI, for whom he will be working in Zimbabwe this summer after the little matter of the Varsity match and a two-week hockey tour of Argentina. Although this was his maiden first-class century, earlier this summer he took 125 off MCC for Cambridge.

Then, he would have turned down any approach to play county cricket from Surrey, for whose under-19 side he once represented. Now, he is not so sure. After all, only Gooch and

Hick have taken first-class centuries off the Australians this season.

Cake was also pleasantly surprised at how little lip he received in the middle. "I expected much more. When I didn't score for 20 minutes or so, there were a few remarks about how bored the spectators must be, but they were quick to congratulate me when I reached my century."

Cake's entire innings, 108 off 237 balls, included 19 fours. Small, hooked-nosed and techni-

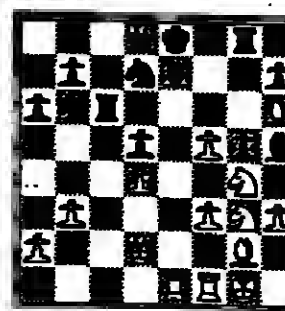
cally sound, he developed his game at KCS Wimbledon, which numbers Buster Mottram and Rehan Ali Khan of Surrey among its alumni.

Cake would probably not have played in this match had not John Crawley, who was going to lead Combined Universities, stayed on for his graduation ceremony. Fry would have managed to attend both and taken on the Australians for good measure, but that is another story. Surrey have not been in touch with him this summer and, anyway, his schedule is such that he would not be able to accommodate them for the time being. "Mr Dexter will have to wait a little longer for me," he said with a winning smile.

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Kasparov — Short, Thessaloniki 1988. Previous encounters have been heavily in Kasparov's favour and today's position is an example. Black resigned here. Could he not struggle on with 1... Bxg4?

To book your seat for The Times World Chess Championship match between Garry Kasparov and Nigel Short ring First Call on 071-497 9977.

Solution on page 38
Championship Chess, page 7

By Philip Howard

DIALECT

NYE
a. A donkey
b. A cowshed
c. A brood of pheasants
DWANG
a. The membrum virile
b. A bowshot
c. To plaster a wall

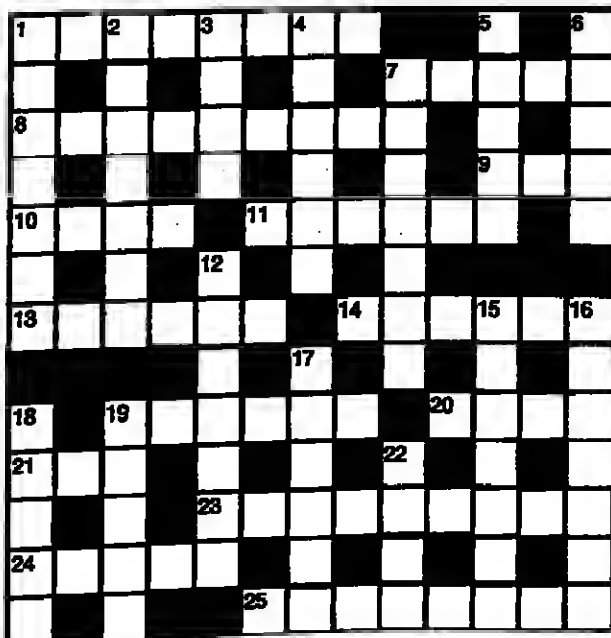
GINNLE

a. A measure of spirits
b. To tickle the gills
c. A bulwark

SLYPE

a. A Yorkshire marsh
b. A narrow covered passage
c. A cloak with owl

Answers on page 38



ACROSS

1 Flanking fire (8)
7 Of birth (5)
8 All over (4,2,3)
9 Noah's vessel (3)
10 Requirement (4)
11 Roar (6)
13 Stretch out (6)
14 Long piece of writing (6)
19 W Pyrenees people (6)
20 Not false (4)
21 Spoil (3)
23 Dutch commercial capital (9)
24 Make void (5)
25 Assumed (8)

DOWN

1 Improve (7)
2 Burst into anger (5,2)
3 Deceased (4)
4 Art indecisively (6)
5 Grain stalk (5)
6 Snow fragment (5)
7 Overlook (7)
12 Not normal (7)
15 Viscountcy superior (7)
16 Imagined (7)
17 VDU pinpoint (6)
18 Bedaub (5)
19 Trade name (5)
22 Fresh information (4)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 3130

ACROSS: 7 Fuse 8 Operator 9 Tickle 10 Drover 11 Sign 12 Artefact 15 Oriental Troupe 22 Proposal 23 Park
DOWN: 1 Fusilier 2 Reckon 3 Forecast 4 Bend 5 Far off 6 Hope 13 Tell tale 14 Clippers 16 Except 17 Floppy 19 Lark 20 Sash

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